PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SUPREME COUNCIL

OF

SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS-GENERAL OF THE THIRTY-THIRD AND LAST DEGREE OF THE

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite

FOR THE

DOMINION OF CANADA.

ANNUAL SESSION

City of Montreal, Que., 28th day of October, 1908

HON. JOHN MORISON GIBSON, K. C., LL. D., 33°, TORONTO, ONT.,

M.: P.: Sov. Gr. Commander.

W. H. BALLARD, 33°, HAMILTON, ONT., Secretary-General, H.: E.:

HAMILTON.
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OF THE

SUPREME COUNCIL

OF THE

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

1908

The Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Dominion of Canada, assembled in Annual Session at the Masonic Temple, 347 Dorchester street west, in the City of Montreal, Province of Quebec, on Wednesday, the 28th day of October, 1908, corresponding to the 3rd day of the Hebrew month Khesvan, A.: M.: 5669.

PRESENT-OFFICERS.

- Ill.: Bro.: Hon. John M. Gibson, K. C., LL. D., 33°, M.: P.: Sovereign Grand Commander.
 - " WILLIAM H. THORNE, 33°,

 Lieutenant Grand Commander.
 - " WILLIAM H. BALLARD, 33°,

 Secretary-General H.: E::
 - " HUGH A. MACKAY, 33°,

 Treasurer-General H.: E::

Grand Chancellor.

- " " ANGUS W. HOOPER, 33°,

 Grand Master of Ceremonies.
- " ENOCH B. BUTTERWORTH, 33, Grand Marshal.
- " CHARLES W. HAGAR, 33°,

 Grand Standard Bearer.
- " BENJAMIN ALLEN, 33°,
 Grand Captain of the Guard.

The Supreme Council was opened in General Session at 10.20 o'clock a.m.

At the suggestion of the Sovereign Grand Commander the following distinguished visitors were formally introduced:

Ill.: Bro.: James H. Codding, 33°, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, United States of America; Ill.: Bro.: William Homan, 33°, Active Member of the same Supreme Council, and the Deputy for the State of New York; Ill.: Bro.: George William Millar, 33°, Active Member of the same Supreme Council for the State of New York.

The Sovereign Grand Commander addressed these distinguished brethren, expressing the great pleasure the Canadian Supreme Council felt in receiving them. He referred to the important position so ably filled by Ill.: Bro.: CODDING as Grand Secretary-General of the largest and most influential Supreme Council in the world, and the brilliant reputation he had already made for himself in the discharge of his important official duties.

He assured Ill.: Bro.: HOMAN that his visit a year ago had made so agreeable an impression on the Canadian brethren that all were extremely pleased to see him again, and made reference to the valuable services he had rendered to the Rite generally in his fight against illegitimacy.

As to Ill.: Bro.: MILLAR, the Sovereign Grand Commander said it was his first visit, and he hoped it would not be the last. He trusted that the cordiality of their welcome would ensure frequent returns to Canada.

Ill.: Bro.: CODDING said in reply:

- MOST PUISSANT SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER:

Your courteous and cordial words of welcome are warmly appreciated. For the first time I am permitted to meet with distinguished brethren—some of whom I have long known—here assembled with the attributes of their own sovereignty, as a Supreme Council which is intimately the friend of our own. So true is this intimacy, that even for official purposes I feel unwilling to place Canada on our records as a foreign jurisdiction. We have common interests, common language, identity of purpose, and hearts which beat in unison, as should those of children of a common mother.

We of the Northern Jurisdiction in the States have been pleased, indeed, by visits from your members. Our dear Bros. Ellis and Stearns do not forget us, and others also have done us the honor to sit by our altar and encourage our work. We trust this may long continue, and hope that, more and more, your brethren may gratify us by their presence at our annual meetings.

I wish, personally, here and now, to return thanks for the honor done me by my election as an honorary member of this body. No other mark of distinction could have pleased me more, for with the honor there came the assurance of personal esteem, more precious than any title or jewel. With my thanks, accept the affectionate acknowledgment of my heart.

Most Puissant Sir, again I thank you and salute you, and all these beloved brethren, in the fraternal spirit of our Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite."

Ill.: Bro.: HOMAN replied as follows:

MOST PUISSANT SOV.: GRAND COMMANDER AND ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

There is something so sincere in the welcome I receive on every visit I make to you, that it is a source of genuine pleasure to accept the invitation whenever extended to me.

I have made many visits to Canada and have met many Canadian Freemasons, and I can say without wishing to be at all flattering, that there is a ring of truth, of sincerity, of genuine brotherhood in them.

As the Deputy of the Northern Supreme Council for the State of New York, I may say that felicitous interchanges in the past must assure such of your members who have honored our Supreme Council with their presence, of the generous attitude and kindly sentiments we entertain towards the Supreme Council for the Dominion of Canada. Stirred, as we are, by the same kindly impulses, we rejoice with you in every benefit you enjoy.

You are welcome to everything I have acquired by research in the past, and I shall freely place at your disposal whatever I may add to my knowledge of Masonic History in the future.

Together may we continue along these lines for many years to come, for no avenue of human activity is so delightful to the traveller along life's highway as that which has for its goal the betterment of mankind, and it is that labor which brings us together on this occasion.

Ill.: Bro.: MILLAR thanked the Sovereign Grand Commander and Illustrious Brethren for their courteous invitation to be present and for the hearty cordiality of the reception with which he had been greeted.

The Secretary-General called the Roll, and the following brethren answered to their names:

ACTIVE MEMBERS, S.:.G.:.I.:.G.:., 33°.

Illustrious Brothers:

HUGH A. MACKAY. HON. JAMES K. KERR. HON. JOHN V. ELLIS. ISAAC H. STEARNS.

HON. JOHN M. GIBSON.
ANGUS W. HOOPER.
WILLIAM H. THORNE.
ENOCH B. BUTTERWORTH.

WILLIAM H. BALLARD. BENJAMIN TOOKE. JOHN D. CHIPMAN. CHARLES W. HAGAR.

BENJAMIN ALLEN.
ELIAS T. MALONE.
DANIEL F. MACWATT.
HON. WILLIAM GIBSON.

HONORARY INSPECTORS-GENERAL, 33°.

Illustricus Brothers:

Andrew W. Porte.
William R. White.
Donald Darrach.
Thomas Lees.
James Glanville.
William G. Eakins.
Fred. J. Howell.
Sidney A. Luke.
Edwin J. Everett.

ALEX. McDougall.
Charles Raynes.
William H. Wetherby.
Albert E. Cooper.
William A. Young.
John McKnight.
John Robertson.
Thomas Walker.
Aubrey White.

Letters or telegrams giving reasons for non-attendance were read from the following members:

ACTIVE MEMBERS, S.: G.: I.: G.:, 33°.

Illustrious Brothers:

CHARLES N. BELL. ALEX. STEPHEN.

JOHN MCKECHNIE.
RODERICK MACNEILL.

PAST ACTIVE MEMBERS, 33°.

Illustrious Brother:

HERBERT SWINFORD.

HONORARY INSPECTORS-GENERAL, 33°.

Illustrious Brothers:

THOMAS A. MACLEAN.
WILLIAM M. BLACK.
JOSEPH R. SEYMOUR.
J. ROSS ROBERTSON.
DONALD MCPHIE.

AUGUSTUS T. FREED.
ALFRED F. WEBSTER.
ANDREW T. NEILL.
WILLIAM A. KARN.

Letters were read from the following Illustrious Brethren, members of other Supreme Councils, in answer to invitations sent for this session, regretting their inability to attend:

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ILL.: BRO.: HENRY L. PALMER, 33°, Milwaukee, Wis.
           JOHN CORSON SMITH, 33°, Chicago, Ill.
           JAMES I. BUCHANAN, 33°, Pittsburgh, Pa.
            THOS. E. BALDING, 33°, Milwaukee, Wis.
           GEO. O. TYLER, 33°, Burlington, Vt.
           WILLIAM C. MASON, 33°, Bangor, Maine.
  66
            CHAS. T. GALLAGHER, 33°, Boston, Mass.
  66
            WILLIAM GEAKE, 33°, Fort Wayne, Ind.
            WILLIAM P. PREBLE, 33°, New Brighton.
           ARTHUR MACARTHUR, 33°, Troy, N. Y.
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  66
           G. H. CURRIER, 33°, Nashua, N. H.
            FRANCIS M. HIGHLEY, 33°, Philadelphia, Pa.
  66
       66
            GEO. W. GUTHRIE, 33°, Pittsburgh, Pa.
            A. T. METCALFE, 33°, Battle Creek, Mich.
  66
           GEO. ARNOLD, 33°, Cleveland, Ohio.
  66
  66
            A. B. CHAMBERLIN, 33°, Washington, D. C.
           ERNEST B. HUSSEY, 33°, Seattle, Wash.
  66
           THE EARL OF KINTORE, 33°, Edinburgh, Scot.
           J. H. BALFOUR MELVILLE, 33°,
           C. C. NISBET, 33°, Edinburgh, Scotland.
  66
  66
           THE EARL OF LATHOM, 33°, London, Eng.
           J. C. F. TOWER, 33°, London, Eng.
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The letter from Ill. Bro. PALMER was as follows:

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, OCTOBER 23RD, 1908.

Mr. J. Morison Gibson, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander Supreme Council of Canada, Hamilton, Ont.

My Dear Sir and M. P. Brother:

I cannot express my regret that I am obliged to write you this letter. I had been planning for weeks to attend the meeting of your Supreme Council, to be held on the 28th inst., at Montreal, subject only to the consideration of my personal health. After a consultation with my physicians and their counsel, a leading physician of Chicago, had here yesterday, a radical change in treatment

has been decided upon, including absolute prohibition against my traveling anywhere or for any purpose for some time to come. This is a great disappointment to me, as it prevents my meeting with your Supreme Council, or making any visitations in our own jurisdiction. I beg you to accept my most sincere regrets that I am thus deprived of the great pleasure of meeting for once with my Brethren of the Supreme Council for the Dominion of Canada.

Please accept for yourself and communicate to the members of your Supreme Council my kindest regards and best wishes for all of them personally and for the success and continued prosperity of your Supreme Council.

I have had some correspondence with Most Puissant Grand Commander RICHARDSON relating to the time for holding the next International Congress of the Supreme Councils of the world, and had suggested to him that we might settle that at the meeting of your Supreme Council. I have a reply from him that he is about to start on a visitation through his own jurisdiction, and for that reason he will not be able to be at Montreal on the 28th inst. This is not, however, very material, as the time of the meeting can be determined upon by correspondence.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

H. L. PALMER, 33°, Sov. Grand Commander.

On motion of Ill.: BRO.: STEARNS, the Proceedings of the last Annual Session having been printed and distributed, were accepted as read and adopted.

It was moved by Ill.: Bro.: Thorne, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: Mackay, and Resolved:—That the Supreme Council place upon its records expression of the great pleasure with which it has received information of the elevation of the Ill.: Sov.: Grand.: Commander The Honorable John Morison Gibson to the important and distinguished office of Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario. After many years of useful and honorable service in the legislative and executive departments of his Province, our Ill.: Brother is called to the highest office in the administration of its affairs, and this evidence of the confidence which is felt in him must be as gratifying to him as it is pleasing to his associates in this Supreme Council. The members heartily congratulate him upon the honor which has been conferred upon him; they are confident that in the discharge of his

public duties he will be ever actuated by the great principles of justice and equity, and that the Province of this Dominion which he governs will be greatly benefited by his wise administration of its affairs; and the members in thus expressing their sentiments to their Ill.. Brother desire him to convey to Mrs. Gibson and their children their congratulations upon the honor in which they can so happily share.

The Sovereign Grand Commander made the following appointments to Committees for the Session:

To the Committee on Audit and Finance, Ill.: Bro.: LUKE, in place of Ill.: Bro.: MCKECHNIE, absent, and to the Committee on doings of Inspectors-General and Special Deputies, Ill.: Bro.: HAGAR, in place of Ill.: Bro.: MURRAY, deceased.

The Supreme Council was called off and a Lodge of Perfection, 14°, opened, and the members of the Rite admitted.

The Sovereign Grand Commander then delivered his Annual Address, as follows:

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.: Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of this Supreme Council, we have again convened for the discharge of ordinary business, consideration of the condition of the Rite within our jurisdiction and the promotion of its best interests. I welcome you to your labors, and confidently rely on the same careful and zealous attention in the performance thereof as has in years past characterized our meetings.

The ranks of Supreme Council have remained almost entirely unbroken during the past year, but the use of the word "almost" becomes very significant and full of painful meaning when it implies that our late much beloved Brother, Ill.: Bro.: HUGH MURRAY, 33°, Grand Chancellor, and for many years our Grand Secretary-General, will never again take part in our deliberations.

In another place in our proceedings will be recorded at greater length some references to his brilliant Masonic career, and the prominently active and useful

life he lived, which gave him so strong an individuality, both in Masonic circles and in the community generally. For over thirty-one years Sovereign Grand Inspector-General of this Supreme Council, it may be said that throughout its entire history he has been a prominent factor in its early establishment and its subsequent progress.

Brother Murray was undoubtedly a man of great force of character, while at the same time calm and considerate in judgment, weighing with much care and thoughtfulness all arguments worthy of consideration before reaching a conclusion. He was always most courteous in receiving suggestions and in meeting the arguments of an opponent; but having once arrived at a decision, he was firm in maintaining same. He was unusually happy in his method of reconciling conflicting opinions and arguments, and not infrequently in suggesting compromises entirely satisfactory to both sides of a controversy or disagreement. His work in all the degrees was particularly impressive. He liked a good part in a good degree, and his rendering was generally the most conspicuous feature of the work.

A man of great ability and individuality, who knew and was known by almost everyone in the community, universally popular without striving for popularity, kind hearted and sympathetic, bright and cheerful as a companion, a loving and devoted husband, a dutiful and affectionate father, a model Sunday School Superintendent—in short an all-round good man, whose removal from among us leaves a conspicuous blank, which we can scarcely hope to see filled by anyone grouping in himself all the excellent qualities of head and heart which characterized our late dear brother.

The late Ill.: Bro.: FREDERICK WEBBER, 33°, Grand Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, passed away from the labors of this life on 8th November, 1907, having been for twelve years an honorary member of this Supreme Council, and well known by many of our older members.

His death cannot but be regarded in the light of the removal of a "land mark," whose name has been most familiar in the annals of Scottish Rite Masonry throughout the world. Well nigh fifty years an active member of his Supreme Council, a right hand man of the late Ill. Sovereign Grand Commander ALBERT PIKE, 33°, and a Brother who was actively concerned in so many events of Masonic importance, even though his transition after a life of four score years was in the natural order of events, his loss has been very deeply and generally mourned.

For nearly twenty-two years he was our representative near his own Supreme Council.

NECROLOGY IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

It seems in order now to make brief reference to some of the losses by death sustained in other jurisdictions:

Southern Jurisdiction U.S.A.

Ill.: Bro.: Allison Nailor, 33°.

Who had been appointed the successor of Ill.. Bro.. FRREDERICK-WEB-BER, 33°, was stricken down after a very brief illness, and very soon after entering upon the discharge of his official duties as Grand Secretary-General.

Northern Jurisdiction U. S. A.

Ill.: Bro.: HENRY CLAY URNER, 33°.

Who died on 19th April, 1908, at the age of 78 years. An active member of Supreme Council, he had all his life belonged to Cincinnati, and was a prominent worker in the bodies in that celebrated centre of Scottish Rite Masonry.

Ill.: Bro.: GILBERT WORDSWORTH BARNARD, 33°.

Who died on 19th June last, in his seventy-fifth year. He received the 33° side by side with Ill.. Bro.: URNER, and became an active member in 1891. Connected by membership with all branches of Masonry, he always displayed executive ability of the highest order, and "his Masonic knowledge, his widely "extended acquaintance with men and human nature, and his genial and char-"itable disposition created a place which will not soon be filled."

Ill.: Bro.: Hugh McCurdy, 33°.

Who died 16th July last, in his 79th year. He was born in Scotland, his parents settling in Michigan when he was only eight years of age. He studied law, became Prosecuting Attorney and later a Judge of Probate, and his legal training and judicial mind were manifested in his committee work in every branch of the Order.

His record is closely identified with the history of Freemasonry in Michigan during his time. He was Grand Master in 1873, Grand High Priest of his Grand Chapter in 1871, and Grand Commander of his Grand Commandery in 1879, and in 1892 was elected Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States. He was for some time Commander-in-Chief of the Detroit Consistory, received the 33° in 1873, became an active member of Supreme Council in 1883, and afterwards was elected Deputy for Michigan, the duties of which positions he is said to have discharged with great promptness and fidelity.

Argentina.

Ill.: Bro.: FAUSTINO JORGE, 33°.

Who was Secretary-General of Supreme Council. "As a Minister of State, "a legislator, a Judge, an administrator, a College Professor, a trustee, a phil-"anthropist, citizen and man, his career was exemplary, without ostentation."

He has been succeeded by Ill.: Bro.: Prof. Baldmar Dobranich, 33°.

Ill.: Bro.: Jose Clementino Soto, 33°.

"A sincere Mason, a constant worker, an advocate of free thought, an "author and periodical writer—served in various military capacities."

Cuba.

Sov.: Grand Commander OCTAVIO RODRIGUEZ PEREZ, 33°.

Born in Havana, 3rd November, 1824, and died in the same city February 27th, 1908. For more than a quarter of a century his enthusiastic personality was a most conspicuous figure in Cuban Masonry. His death and funeral called forth the strongest expressions of appreciation of his distinguished career and sorrow at his departure to the Great Beyond. He has been succeeded as Sovereign Grand Commander by Ill. Bro. MANUEL T. CASTELLANOS, 33°.

Central America.

Ill.: Bro.: Alejandro Aguilar, 33°.

Who died at Costa Rica, 2nd February, 1908. An active member of Supreme Council, in which he filled various positions.

Ill.. Bro.: Jose Leonard, 33°.

Who died 15th April, 1908. "By his extensive information, affability and "rectitude of character, he achieved, in Central America, a prominent position."

Mexico.

Ill.: Bro.: ANGEL QUIROS, 33°. Active member.

Ill.: Bro.: ESTEBAN MORALES, 33°. Member of the Chamber of Honor.

Ill.: Bro.: Francisco de P. Gochicoa, 33°. Active member.

Scotland.

Ill. . Bro. . James Dalrymple Gray Dalrymple, 33°.

A Brother "who was held in very high esteem by the members of his "Supreme Council, who will miss his sound judgment and ripe experience, "which distinguished him in every branch of Freemasonry, while his invariable courtesy and genial disposition had endeared him to all."

Switzerland.

Ill.: Bro.: Jules Capre, 33°.

Who died, after a long illness, June 21st, 1908, and was, at the time of his death, our representative in Switzerland. "In his long and brilliant Masonic "career he was always remarkable for zeal and devotion. He left behind him "the reputation of a good citizen and an excellent Freemason."

Ill.: Bro.: CESAR DUPUIS, 33°. Active member.

Ill.: Bro.: Albert Niestle Rossier, 33. Active member.

Ill.: Bro.: PAUL CH. STROEHLIN, 33°. Active member.

HOME AFFAIRS.

Continued progress has in a general way characterized the history of the Rite in our jurisdiction during the past year, and it is gratifying to be able to again record the absence of anything like discord or troublesome occurrences, which, while human nature remains as weak as it is, must sometimes be looked for even in the most harmonious and "best regulated families." The intelligence and high moral character of those who seek advancement to the degrees of our Rite are, generally speaking, a guaranty against anything like unmasonic conduct or violations of the obligations, principles and regulations of our Order, calling for the exercise of disciplinary treatment. But, however frequently in the past our subordinate bodies may have been advised to weigh well the quality of material offering for new membership, and not to regard numbers as a matter of necessary importance, I cannot refrain from urging the members of this Supreme Council, individually and collectively, to make their influence felt in their respective valleys in preventing forgetfulness or carelessness with regard to the oft repeated injunctions on this subject.

In a general way I am able to state from information furnished by the Grand Secretary-General that while there has been a falling off in the numbers of degrees conferred, especially in the Lodges of Perfection, the revenue for the year has been larger than for 1907, while the expenditure has been less. This is accounted for by increased amount of dues from increased membership, additional interest from further investments, and the conferring of the thirty-third degree on a larger number than usual last year. Without doubt the financial depression has to some extent been the cause of a falling off in the number of initiates.

My visitations during the year have been so few that I refrain from giving details thereof. A general confession must be accepted without the specific evidence necessary to show exactly how few they have been. There were occasions when I was extremely anxious to meet the brethren at different points, but was prevented from doing so by the imperative force of circumstances.

It has been most satisfactory to observe the interest taken in the Easter ceremonies and the care displayed by most, if not all, the Chapters in making that season, as should be the case, a real revival period, when it is desirable that the brethren should leave the beaten track of ritual, throw off restraint, and discuss, with the utmost freedom, their views of the practical application to everyday life of the lessons learned throughout the degrees—"tell their experiences," so to speak. In many cases carefully thought-out addresses are delivered, which lead the way for candid interchanges of thought, improvement as well as information being the result.

The Annual Re-unions, which have been held as usual, continue to have the influence and effect of increasing the efficiency of a greater number of brethren in the rendering of the degrees, making them more and more attractive, as well as instructive and impressive.

During the year I have confirmed amendments of by-laws passed by Royal City Lodge of Perfection of Guelph, Vancouver Lodge of Perfection, and Ottawa Lodge of Perfection.

The Ill.. Deputy for the Province of Nova Scotia has brought to the attention of Supreme Council the complaint of certain brethren of the Rite in that Province, that by-laws passed by the Lodge of Perfection and the Rose Croix Chapter impose annual dues to the amount of \$1.00 a year in each case, whereas, they having been admitted when no annual dues were payable, and when the entrance fees were, as they were informed, all that would be required of them, it is contended that they cannot now be compelled by by-law to pay dues, or, in other words, that they are life members, although the bodies had no by-laws providing for life membership. The contention is, that those who were admitted prior to the passing of the by-law were really admitted as life members and cannot now be called upon to pay dues, although they are quite willing to voluntarily donate from time to time such amount as may be necessary for the purposes of the Lodge or Chapter, as the case may be.

These by-laws were forwarded to the Grand Secretary-General direct, and were not delivered to the Deputy of the Province for transmission as, strictly speaking, they should have been; and they were confirmed as a matter of routine. They seemed very reasonable and unobjectionable. But the question of how far so called "vested interests" can be interfered with by subsequent imposition or increase of annual dues involves a good deal of law and necessitates investigation and the following out of decisions of the courts.

My view, when attention was first called to the matter, was that, in a case like the present, where no formal contract has been entered into, where no pecuniary benefits are secured in any way to the joining member, where no obligation at all of a contractual nature has been either assumed or imposed, the decisions relating to friendly societies and benefit societies, with constitutions providing for assessments, would not apply. But the decisions of the courts go very far. It has been held (Harrington v. Sendall, L. R. 1903, I Chy. 921) that a club which is governed by rules prescribing the amount of the annual subscription, but not containing any provision for the amendment or alteration thereof, cannot, by a resolution passed by a majority of the members present at a general meeting, raise the amount of the subscription so as to bind existing members, and the courts will interfere by injunction to restrain the expulsion of a dissentient member for refusing to pay the increased subscription.

I don't profess to have arrived at a satisfactory conclusion as to whether anything should or should not be done. His Honor Ill.. Bro.. JUDGE MACWATT, 33°, the Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence, has already given some attention to the question, and it will perhaps be as well to refer the complaint of the Nova Scotia brethren to that Committee.

I think, however, the complaint, if pressed, should be formally stated by or on behalf of those who feel aggrieved by these by-laws, and there should be evidence of the assurances of life membership, which are somewhat vaguely alleged to have been given at the time of joining. The most desirable solution would be the withdrawal of any complaint. Surely life is too short for contention that the imposition of a liability for payment of \$1.00 a year as dues to a Lodge or Chapter is, or can be, under any circumstances, on principle, an injustice.

A petition asking for the establishment of a Chapter of Rose Croix at Guelph was received early in the year from the following brethren, viz.: Sovereign Princes J. ORR ROSE, 18°, A. S. ALLAN, 18°, W. ROY, 18°, GEORGE CHAPMAN, 18°, A. B. PETRIE, 18°, G. D. FORBES, 32°, R. J. LOCKHART, 18°, DAVID J. MINCHIN, 32°, and A. J. ROSS, 30°.

It is not very long since I had the opportunity of witnessing the conferring by the Guelph brethren of five of the degrees in the Lodge of Perfection, all of which, as I last year remarked, were worked with much accuracy and intelligent appreciation, and it was without any hesitation whatever that I granted a dispensation for conferring the Rose Croix degrees. Active preparations are made for carrying on the work with energy and enthusiasm. No work, however, has yet been done under the dispensation, and you will consider whether the same should be continued for another year before absolutely deciding to issue a warrant.

In pursuance of the resolution adopted at the last annual meeting of Supreme Council, a warrant has been issued to the brethren therein named for a new Chapter at Edmonton, under the name of Mizpah Chapter.

It will be remembered that a petition for a Consistory warrant for Prince Edward Island was presented at our meeting a year ago, and that Ill.: Bro.: RODERICK MACNEILL, 33°, the Deputy for that Province, with his characteristic force and earnestness, urged prompt compliance on the part of Supreme Council, giving reasons which he considered ample and sufficient.

No action was taken, but it was thought that possibly on mature consideration a dispensation might be issued by me during the year, if the reasons seemed to me to justify some action.

The subject has received from me much more than ordinary consideration, and there are, as usual, arguments both ways. Prince Edward Island is a Province with all the status, legislative jurisdiction and Governmental machinery of the other Provinces, which have, each of them, a Consistory. But Prince Edward Island is small. The Lodge of Perfection and Rose Croix Chapter memberships are not large, and it is reasonably within reach of the Consistories of Halifax and St. John. Still Prince Edward Island is a Province and a very old part of the jurisdiction, and by analogy to civil and other relationships to other Provinces of the Dominion, claims its full status in the Masonic relationship. In all such matters the question of expediency must have more or less weight. During the year, after consultation, I decided to give authority for conferring the 19° to 32° upon a certain number of prominent Sovereign Princes, whose standing and influence on the Island have been prominently established, and will naturally have a promoting effect in the best interests of the Rite. The usual fees for the degrees have been remitted to Supreme Council, and are held

at the credit of a special account to be made use of for the benefit of a Consistory on the Island when the same shall have been fully authorized and established.

An application has recently been made by the Barrie bodies for a dispensation authorizing the conferring of the Chapter degrees upon a number of brethren from Owen Sound at the same time as the degrees of Perfection, that is to say, dispensing with the statutory interval. In the absence of the Illustrious Deputy for the Province, and there not being, in my opinion, sufficient urgency or special grounds, no action on the application was authorized by me.

FOREIGN.

Our relations with all recognized Supreme Councils throughout the world have been harmonious; but it may be recessary, in the course of this address, to refer to certain proceedings in connection with two of them, which call for some expression of views by Supreme Councils generally.

ENGLAND.

Our representative, Ill.. Bro.. The Earl of Cork and Orrery, 33°, having resigned from Supreme Council, Ill.. Bro.. The Earl of Lathom, 33°, a prominent member of our Mother Supreme Council, has been appointed to represent this Supreme Council.

During the year a communication was received from a certain Alfred Josiah Powley, of Wellington, New Zealand, styling himself Grand Commander of a Supreme Council of the A. & A. S. Rite for the Dominion of New Zealand, alleged to have been legally established and duly constituted on the 22nd day of June, 1893, and claiming recognition and interchange of representatives. Correspondence with England discloses, as might be expected, a very distinct refusal on the part of our Mother Supreme Council to give the recognition asked for, and it almost goes without saying that this Supreme Council must decline to entertain the application.

The correspondence will be laid before you for such formal action as may be considered called for and proper.

IRELAND.

Indirectly, information has very recently been received of the resignation of Ill. Bro.. The RIGHT HONORABLE H. E. CHATTERTON, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Ireland, and Representative of this Supreme Council. For several years he had been in a weak state of health and practically unable to discharge the responsibilities and functions of the office.

Ill.. Bro.. THE HONORABLE LORD JUSTICE FITZGIBBON, 33°, Lieutenant-Grand Commander, will no doubt succeed, if he has not already done so, to the office of Sovereign Grand Commander, in which case the Rite in Ireland will be extremely fortunate, as the distinguished brother occupies a very high position among the eminent membership of the three Old Country Supreme Councils. At

the London Conference of all the English speaking Councils, when the delegates were on their way to Brussels, and when the English, Irish and Scotch Supreme Councils were being urged to send representatives to the International Conference, Ill.: Bro.: FITZGIBBON was entrusted with the difficult task of making the reply to the American and Canadian addresses, a task which he discharged with the utmost ability, tact and prudence.

His visit to Canada some years ago is not likely to be forgotten by any of the brethren who had the good fortune to meet him.

NORTHERN JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

In March last, with Ill.: Bro.: the Grand Secretary-General, Ill.: Bros.: GEORGE MOORE, 32°, and G. II. LEVY, 32°, I attended the annual Re-union in the Valley of Cleveland. A very large number of prominent members of the Rite were present.

A meeting of the Ohio Council of Deliberation was being held in Cleveland at the same time. So much has been said in the past about these Re-unions, it seems like mere repetition to do more than say that my reception was as cordial as it was possible to be. The banquet was the occasion of some very brilliant speeches, and the feeling manifested to Canadians was of a most generous and hearty nature.

On the 15th September last I attended the regular Session of the Northern Supreme Council, which was held at Buffalo, and once more the three Grand Commanders of the Supreme Councils of North America sat in the East together. The Venerable Most Potent Sovereign Grand Commander PALMER, 33°, presided over his Supreme Council with his old time brightness and keenness of intellect unimpaired by the wear and tear of a hard-working, strenuous life. A whole multitude of Sublime I'rinces of the Royal Secret constituted the class for receiving the thirty-third degree as Honorary Inspector-General from their Sovereign Grand Commander. In view of his partial relief from the burden of business cares and responsibilities, I personally pressed upon Ill.: Bro.: PALMER the consideration by him of the possibility of a visit to our jurisdiction during the present Session, and he has since then gratified me by writing to the effect that such a visit was being seriously contemplated by him. His appearance here would be regarded by us all as a welcome opportunity of not only according him a most hearty reception, but of manifesting our appreciation of his long and honorable record and his distinguished services in the Rite.

SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

The death of Ill.: Bro.: FRED. WEBBER, 33°, Grand Secretary-General, left a vacancy in the representation of our Supreme Council, which has been filled by the appointment of Ill.: Bro.: ERNEST B. HUSSEY, 33°, of Seattle, Washington.

THE NEXT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

I am glad to be able to announce to you that the Sovereign Grand Com-

manders of the three Supreme Councils of North America have unanimously selected Washington as the place for holding the next International Conference of Supreme Councils of the World. We agreed that the representatives of the other Supreme Councils throughout the world would naturally prefer meeting at the capital of the United States rather than any other city that might be suggested. Moreover, it seemed fitting that the meeting should take place at the headquarters of the Senior or Mother Supreme Council.

BELGIUM.

Copies of the "Transactions" of the International Conference of Supreme Councils at Brussels have been received, and one thereof sent to each active member of this Supreme Council.

In this connection I may be pardoned for stating that the Supreme Council of Belgium has conferred on me the great distinction of making me an honorary member of that important body, and that I have been made the recipient of a similar distinction from the Supreme Council of France. I am not vain enough, my brethren, to attribute these honors to any special merit or desert which can be laid claim to by me, and must regard the high compliments as evidence merely of a desire to show some appreciation on the part of these Supreme Councils of the record of this Supreme Council during its comparatively brief period of existence, as well as the firm establishment of the Rite in this vast country, with its future of greatness and potentiality.

EGYPT.

Ill.: Bro.: ONOFRIO ABBATE PASHA, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, has resigned his position as Grand Commander, assigning as his reason his advanced age.

Ill.: Bro.: IDRIS BEY RAGHEB, 33°, succeeds. Both names were very familiar in the late controversies between Cairo and Alexandria.

The Supreme Council of Egypt has addressed a circular to all regular Masonic powers and to all regular Masons, complaining of the establishment of a body at Cairo under the title, "Grand Lodge of Jerusalem," without patent or charter emanating from any Masonic power having territorial jurisdiction in Egypt.

The circular states that this body, without authority or legal foundation, assumes the right to confer high degrees, purporting to be degrees of the Scottish Rite.

The invasion of territory also includes the establishment at Alexandria, on 20th June last, under the Grand Lodge of Hambourg, of a lodge under the distinctive title of "Fur Pompejus Saule."

The allegation is made that these proceedings are absolutely contrary to the general statutes, which regulate the entire Order of the Institution of Masonry, and in defiance of the conclusions arrived at by the Brussels Conference.

In my judgment the position taken by the Supreme Council of Egypt is quite correct.

VENEZUELA.

The Supreme Council of England has had under consideration a pamphlet issued by Lodge "Asylum of Peace, No. 13," of Ciudad Bolivar, of Venezuela, in which allegations are made against the Supreme Council of Venezuela, which, if true, would, in the opinion of England, appear to justify discontinuance of recognition.

A copy of the pamphlet forwarded discloses a platform adopted by the Grand Orient of Venezuela quite at variance with our well understood fundamental views of relationship to religious denominations, as well as to political parties and political questions.

GREECE.

Correspondence will be submitted from the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council at Athens, respecting the foundation of a new and spurious body in that jurisdiction, as well as from the leader or head of the new body.

MEXICO.

A communication from this Supreme Council, after referring to certain treaties of alliance and amity with Grand Lodges established in Vera Cruz, Chihuahua, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Tamaulipas, Oaxaca, and other States or Provinces, now declares that after the lapse of many years since these treaties were entered into, circumstances have changed, a unification of Masonry has taken place, and the reasons which led to the celebration of the treaties now no longer exist, and that on 7th March last the same were terminated. This action on the part of the Supreme Council seems to have been the result of a desire to be freed from entangling relations with the symbolic Masonry in the localities named, while preserving the same friendly and fraternal attitude to same, as hitherto.

ITALY.

A year ago I stated in my annual address that "trouble seemed to be brewing in Italy," and, after making some reference to the kaleidoscopic history of the Rite in that country, suggested that the questions involved should be made the subject of investigation by the Committee on Foreign Relations. It is with the deepest regret that I have to inform you that the conditions have become much more serious than a year ago seemed probable. To put the matter briefly, a move has been made by the Grand Orient to swallow up the independent Supreme Council of Italy, heretofore presided over by Ill.. Bro . BALLORI, 33°, as Sovereign Grand Commander, and who has been our Representative in that jurisdiction.

Ill.. Bro. BALLORI has committed himse f to this movement, and resigned his position of Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, of which he was the head, to become Sovereign Grand Commander of another so-called Supreme Council, whose policy is subordination to the Grand Orient of Italy, and dragging the Scottish Rite into political squabbles.

Apparently Sovereign Grand Commander BALLORI only resigned when it was found that he could not carry Supreme Council with him. Sincere efforts are said to have been made to induce him to reconsider the determination he had arrived at and to withdraw his resignation, but these efforts were unsuccessful, and the Lieutenant-Grand Commander, Ill.: Bro.: CAV. SAVERIO FERA, 33°, was elected Grand Commander in his room and stead.

The new Sovereign Grand Commander has been diligent in fully addressing other Supreme Councils regarding the situation, and plainly asserts that the scope and aims of the "rebellion" include the wish and "attempt at any cost "to transform the Order into a real fighting political association, affiliated with "extreme and even subversive parties; to make Masonry a society anti religious "and downright atheistic; to entirely transform at any cost the A. & A. S. Rite and secure the unification of the two Rites, making of them an amalgam, in "which the principles and discipline of the Scottish Rite would be sacrificed, "with little remaining beyond the decorative part, and even that for no one "knows how long"—and so on.

I am endeavoring merely to convey some idea of the seriousness of the situation in Italy, without being too tedious.

The correspondence and papers addressed to us by Sovereign Grand Commander FERA are lengthy and apparently convincing, while little has come from the "Ballori" body beyond the announcement of the officers elected for that body.

From such consideration as I have been able to give to the communications and material submitted to us, without desiring to commit Supreme Council, I must frankly state that, in my opinion, the position taken by Ill.. Bro.. FERA and his associates should receive the full approval and support of this Supreme Council.

It is sometimes well not to be too soon in expressing an opinion or in being committed definitely one way or the other, contenting ourselves by saying "it is a domestic dispute, let them settle their own affairs for themselves." But in this case, if we have definite views as regards the merits of the controversy, the true interests of the Rite at large will be best served by a prompt and pronounced expression of sympathy with our brethren who have determined to remain loyal to their Supreme Council, the general constitutions of the Rite and the conclusions arrived at by the Brussels Conference.

The references I have been making to other jurisdictions may, to some of you, seem unnecessarily profuse, and yet it is feared that what has been somewhat hurriedly written by me may not, in all cases, convey to you with as much clearness as is desirable the information which ought to be presented.

The papers and correspondence for the most part are in French or Italian or Spanish, with some of which languages my familiarity is quite meagre, making dictionary assistance necessary. But, if the International Conference of last year is to bear fruit in a closer and more sympathetic relationship between Supreme Councils throughout the world, as well as a nearer approximation to uniformity in

essentials at least, and generally speaking in work and methods as well, and if the next assemblage to be held at Washington of delegates from Supreme Councils all over the world, at which England, Scotland and Ireland are expected to be represented, is to be productive of the best results, increased interest should be taken in the transactions and domestic affairs of many Supreme Councils, our knowledge of which has hitherto been very limited.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Correspondence has taken place with a number of Supreme Councils regarding mutual representation, and intimation has been received of the appointment of Ill.: Bro.: C. W. HAGAR, 33°, as representative in Canada of Venezuela; Ill.: Bro.: ALEX. STEPHEN, 33°, as representative of Dominican Republic, and Ill.: Bro.: RODERICK MACNEILL, 33°, as representative of Chili.

Though recommendations have been made, there are no representatives in this jurisdiction of Italy, Portugal or Greece.

The following representatives to foreign Supreme Councils have been appointed at the suggestions of the respective Councils, and Letters Patent of Credence have been duly prepared and forwarded:

England.

Ill.: Bro.: THE EARL OF LATHOM, 33°, vice THE EARL OF CORK AND ORRERY, resigned from the Council.

Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

Ill.: Bro.: ERNEST B. HUSSEY, of Seattle, Washington, in place of the late Ill.: Bro.: FRED. WEBBER, 33°, deceased.

Paraguay.

Ill.: Bro.: L. SILVESTRE PROTA GIURLEO, 33°, Secretary-General, and he having, subsequent to his appointment, removed from the jurisdiction of his Council, Ill.: Bro.: J. J. MENDEZ SAMPAIO, 33°, has been appointed in his stead.

Chili.

Ill. .. Bro. .. Juan Bostleman, 33°.

Uruguay.

JOSE M. CASTANOS, 33°, to replace Ill.: Bro.: LINDORO FORTEZA, 33°, our former representative.

Switzerland.

Our representative, Ill.: Bro.: Jules Capre, died 21st June, 1908, and no successor has yet been appointed.

We have no representation at the U. S. of Columbia, Egypt, Greece, Portugal, Spain or Venezuela.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, my brethren, I fear that I have been trespassing unduly upon your patience. Possibly the substance of what I have presented to you might have been compressed into much smaller space. A good short address is more difficult to prepare than a much longer one, with no greater aggregate of substance or merit. My apology must consist of the mere statement that for some time my private and public routine of business responsibility has been in a transition stage, from which more or less confusion is inseparable.

I am not without hope, however, that my removal to Toronto, and consequent relief from the continuous strain of an active and sometimes very strenuous business career, may leave me in a position to devote more time and thought to the service of the Rite than has hitherto, during my term of office, been possible.

Our meeting again in Montreal for the second year in succession is evidence that, while we may now and again wander off to this or that valley of the Rite in the jurisdiction, we like our Grand East because it is our greatest Canadian city, and, on the whole, the most central and satisfactory place of meeting, and we like it also because we are always assured a very cordial greeting and hearty welcome by our brethren of this Valley.

Let us now, my brethren, devote our attention to the discharge of the duties and responsibilities devolving on us as Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General; may wisdom and prudence characterize our proceedings; and may our Father in Heaven prosper our endeavors, and, in all things, guide and bless us.

October 28th, 1908.

J. M. GIBSON, 33°,
Sov.: Gr.: Commander.

The Lodge of Perfection was then closed, and the Supreme Council resumed labor in General Session.

On motion of Ill.: Bro.: STEARNS, the address was referred to a Special Committee, whose members were named by the Sovereign Grand Commander, as follows: Ill.: Bros.: MACWATT, W. GIBSON and THORNE.

The annual report of the Secretary-General and that of the Treasurer-General were then presented and read, as follows: To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

I have the honor to present the report of the Secretary-General.

AMOUNTS AND SOURCES OF INCOME.

Thirty-third deg	gree conf	erred.			500	00
Consistory degr	ees in Cl	harlott	etow	n	360	00
Interest on \$16	,coo deb	enture	S		607	35
" curr	ent accor	unt			92	74
Pocket certificat	les				78	00
Moore (Consistor	y, due	s		394	50
6 6	6 6	disp	ensat	tions	56	00
Montreal	6 6	due	s	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	92	00
New Brunswick	. "	6 6			24	50
66	66	disp	ensa	tions	8	00
Nova Scotia	66	due	S		34	50
6.6	6.6	disp	ensat	tions	II	00
Manitoba	6.6	due	S		61	50
6 6	6.6	disp	ensa	tions	13	00
British Columb	ia "	due	s		51	75
66	6 6	disp	ensat	tions	16	00
	Chapter	Rose	Croix	r, dues	150	25
6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	dispensations	3	00
London	6.6	66	6.6	dues	121	00
6.6	6.6	"	6.6	dispensations	7	00
6 6	6.6	66	6 6	supplies	2	00
Toronto	6.6	6.6	6.6	dues	67	75
Rose of Sharon	6.6	66	66	66	6	25
Spry	66	6.6	6.6	66	8	00
Murray	6.6	6.6	6.6	66	78	00
66	"	66	6.6	dispensations	4	00
Hochelaga	6 6	66	6.6	dues	47	00
Quebec	66	6.6	6.6	66	23	75
Harington	6.6	66	66	66	28	75
66	6 6	"	6.6	dispensations	2	00
Keith	6.6	66	6.6	dues	28	25
Bethesda	6 6	"	6.6	66	59	75
Charlottetown	6 6	6.6	6.6	"	ΙI	50
Vancouver	6.6	6.6	. 66		38	50
Mizpah	6.6	6.6	6 6	* 66	74	25
"	6 6	6.6	. 66	supplies	. 2	СО
Guelph	6 6	6 6	6 6	dispensations	5	00
			ion,	dues	233	75
6 6		6.6		supplies	10	00
London	6.6	6 6		dues	155	75
6 6	66	6 6	5	supplies	7	00

T	T . 1 (° D. C. 4°	7	Φ	
Toronto	Loage of	Perfection	, dues		
66	66	6 6	supplies		00
			dispensations		00
Kingston	66	66	dues	18	25
Royal City	6.6	66		59	25
4 6	6 6	٤,	supplies	9	00
Barrie	6.6	6 6	dues	35	50
Ottawa	6.6	66	66	130	50
66	66	66	supplies	5	00
Hochelaga	6.6	6 6	dues	61	25
6.6	6.6	6.6	dispensations	I	00
Quebec	6.6	6.6	dues	, 52	00
66	"	6.6	dispensations	I	00
St. John	66	66	dues	. 40	75
6.6	66	66	supplies	ΙΙ	00
Victoria	6 6	66	dues	36	00
Winnipeg	66	66		156	00
6 6	6 6	66	supplies	25	00
Albert Edwa	rd "	"	dues	22	00
4 6	6 6	66	dispensations	I	00
Vancouver	66	66	dues	68	50
6.6	66	6.6	supplies 1	ΙΙ	25
Edmonton	"	66	dues	59	50
				Φ .	
These ma	av he sum	marized a	s follows:	\$4,524	
	9			A	
Nineteenth to	degree co	nierred	nferred		
Interest	, initiati	degree co	and the same and t	360 700	
					00
			* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	87	
Dispensations	S			129	
Consistories,	dues			658	
Unapters,	46			743	
Louges,	• • •	*		1,268	50
				\$4,524	59
The ages	ta of Cuny	one Counc	sil Cont 20th 2008 are as follows:		
			cil, Sept. 30th, 1908, are as follows:	+ 0	
			Loan Co		
			Co Hamilton	8,coo	
				1,184	
				880	
				800	00
				400	00
				\$24,528	04
				11244 340	44
		Fra	iternally submitted,		

W. H. BALLARD, 33°,

Secretary-General.

Supreme Council 33°, A.: & A.: S.: Rite for the Dominion of Canada, in Account with the Treasurer-General.

1907		Dr.		
Nov.	6,	Huron & Erie Co., debenture No. 373	\$2,000 00	0
6 6	6,	Gr. Seneschal, session 1907	10 00	
"	8,	Gr. Commander, paid proportion of cup to Gr. Com-	,	
		mander of Belgium	25 00	0
Dec.	12,	SecGeneral, expenses funeral late Bro. Hugh Murray	32 00	0
190	08.			
Feb.	12,	I. H. Stearns, Supreme Council expenses, session 1907	314 30	0
6 6	12,	T. W. Lester, premium of insurance	15 30	0
Mch.	16,	Hamilton M. H. Ass'n, rent to 1st April	60 00	0
6.6	16,	Howell Lith. Co., parchment certificates	281 2	5
May	12,	Times Printing Co., proceedings and circulars	251 00	0
6.6	12,	Howell Lith. Co., cards and envelopes	39 30	0
66	12,	A. M. Cunningham, framing photos	5 10	
"	21,	Secretary-General, subscription to Lodge Coronati	2 6	I
6.6	21,	Secretary-General, proportion of cost of printed proceed-		
T		ings of Brussels Conference	32 5	
June		Secretary-General, express charges	23 00	
C	22,	Secretary-General, account petty expenses	40 00	
Sept.	• •	Hamilton M. H. Assoc'n, rent to 1st October	60 00	
66	24,	R. Duncan & Co., books and stationery	12 7	_
6.6	24, 24,	Secretary-General, salary for 1908	600 0	
	24.			
	• -	Secretary-General, petty expenses	20 00	
6 6	30,	Cash in Bank of Hamilton	5,264 9	
	• -			4
6.6	• -		5,264 9	4
190	30,	Cash in Bank of Hamilton	5,264 9. \$9,089 og	4 9 =
190	30,	Cash in Bank of Hamilton CR.	5,264 9. \$9,089 og	9
190 Sept.	30, 27. 30, 28,	Cash in Bank of Hamilton CR. Cash in Bank of Hamilton	\$9,089 09 \$4,564 50	9
190 Sept. Oct.	30, 27. 30, 28,	Cash in Bank of Hamilton CR. Cash in Bank of Hamilton Secretary-General Huron & Erie Loan Co. coupons, 6 months' interest on \$3,000	\$9,089 09 \$4,564 50	4 9 = 0
190 Sept. Oct.	30, 27. 30, 28,	Cash in Bank of Hamilton CR. Cash in Bank of Hamilton 'Secretary-General 'Huron & Erie Loan Co. coupons, 6 months' interest	\$9,089 00 \$4,564 50 500 00	9 = 0
Sept. Oct. Nov.	30, 30, 30, 28, 1,	Cash in Bank of Hamilton CR. Cash in Bank of Hamilton Secretary-General Huron & Erie Loan Co. coupons, 6 months' interest on \$3,000 Bank of Hamilton, interest	\$9,089 00 \$4,564 50 500 00	9 = 0
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190 Sept. Oct. Nov.	30, 30, 30, 28, 1, 30, 08.	Cash in Bank of Hamilton CR. Cash in Bank of Hamilton Secretary-General Huron & Erie Loan Co. coupons, 6 months' interest on \$3,000 Bank of Hamilton, interest	\$9,089 00 \$4,564 50 500 00	9 = 0 0 0 6 6
190 Sept. Oct. Nov.	30, 30, 30, 28, I, 30, 08.	Cash in Bank of Hamilton. CR. Cash in Bank of Hamilton. Secretary-General. Huron & Erie Loan Co. coupons, 6 months' interest on \$3,000. Bank of Hamilton, interest. Huron & Erie Loan Co. coupons, 6 months' interest on \$3,000. Landed Banking & Loan Co. coupons, 6 months'	\$9,089 00 \$4,564 50 500 00 50 40	9 = 0 0 0 6 6
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July	9,	Cash,	Secretar	y-General	1\$	360	00
66	31,	6 6	6.6	6.6		250	00
Aug.	15,	6 6	Landed	Banking	& Loan Co. coupons, 6 months'		
			interest	t on \$8,00	00	16 1	87
Sept.	18,	6 6	Secretar	y-General	1,	500	00
6 6	30,	6.6	6 6	"	I	,000	00
66	30,	6.6	6.6	6.6	I	,000	00
	30,	66	66			214	50
					\$9	,089	09

Fraternally submitted,

H. A. MACKAY, 33°,

Treasurer-General.

Berlin, Ont., 30th September, 1908.

On motion of Ill.: Bro.: MACKAY, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: BALLARD, these two reports were referred to the Committee on Audit and Finance.

The following reports of the Deputies of the Supreme Council for the different Provinces were then read:

ONTARIO.

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

I have again the honor to present my report upon the condition of the Scottish Rite in the Province of Ontario.

The past year has been one of sadness to the brethren, not only throughout the Province of Ontario, but in every part of the Dominion where the Rite exists, owing to the death of our late Grand Chancellor, Illustrious Brother Hugh Murray, 33°.

Much has been read and written about our late lamented brother, by distinguished brethren in every branch of Masonry, and however much has been done in this direction all would in a greater or lesser degree fall short of doing him the justice his work and worth entitled him to, ever ready as he was to give advice when required, and never afraid to express his opinions, nor swerving from what he believed to be just, proper and right.

To us, his associates in the Scottish Rite, he filled a large and warm place in our affections, and his memory will never be forgotten by the present members of Supreme Council.

For myself, personally, I feel his loss deeply. For over thirty-seven years we had been more than friends, brothers in every sense of the word. Kind, con-

siderate, indulgent to those he loved, stern but never severe to those he felt were not doing right, he led a good life and he has gone to his reward, and has left us all a good example to follow—in a word he was a man.

We have lost many members of the Rite during the past year, whose names will appear under their respective lodges or chapters, whose places will be very hard to fill, yet we who are left must carry on the work whilst it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work.

It is exceedingly gratifying to be able to report that the condition of the Rite throughout the Province of Ontario was never more healthy or promising than it is at the present time.

The Rite continues to make rapid advances in all the large Masonic centres, and in the smaller places splendid work is being done, so that it may be said that the past year has been one of great prosperity.

Annual Re-unions were held as in former years at Hamilton, London, Ottawa and Guelph; all were successful in every particular, and well attended, both by members and visitors. Degrees were exemplified by different lodges and chapters in other bodies than their own, thus affording the members of the Rite an opportunity of visiting each other, and assimilating the work, making it uniform throughout the Province, as also bringing the work of the various degrees up to the high standard required by Supreme Council. Dispensations were granted for the several re-union meetings.

OTTAWA.

Murray Chapter of Rose Croix, as well as the Lodge of Perfection, held their annual Re-union March 11th and 12th, 1908, which was a most successful one. I had the pleasure of attending the meetings during the conferring of several of the degrees, and can bear testimony to the zeal of the officers of both lodge and chapter, as also to the beautiful work done by them.

I had the honor of being accompanied by Illustrious Brothers the Honorable Senators Ellis, 33°, P. S. G. C., Yeo, 32°, and William Ross, 18°, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, on my official visit.

A banquet followed, which did great credit to the members; many admirable, eloquent and able addresses were made, Past Sovereign Grand Commander Ellis being one of the speakers.

The Ottawa Lodge of Perfection has the following membership:

Members last return	279
New members	19
Restored, Honorary, Senator Yeo, 32°	1
	299
Loss by death 3	
Withdrawal 2	
	5
Total membership	294

The Lodge mourns the loss of Bros. N. W. Cleary, 18°; G. M. Ryerson, 14°, and William Thackray, 18°.

Murray Chapter of Rose Croix has the following membership:

Members last return	171
New members	16
Restored	I
•	188
Lost by death 3	
Withdrawal 1	
Shrinda .	4
Total membership	184

The following members of the Chapter were called to their reward: Ill. Bros.: Hugh Murray, 33°, N. W. Cleary, 18°, and William Thackray, 18°.

The members of Supreme Council take great interest in the work and success of the Rite, and through their efforts and the officers of the two bodies, a very high standard of efficiency has been maintained.

The beautiful Easter services were observed by the members of Murray Chapter of Rose Croix.

LONDON.

The Chapter and Lodge of Perfection held a most successful Re-union on 19th and 20th February, 1908.

These bodies have had another successful year, and the several degrees worked were beyond criticism, as reported to me, being unable at that time to get away owing to my public duties at Ottawa. A splendid banquet followed, and closed one of the best gatherings of the Rite ever held in London.

The officers are well up in their work, the meetings well attended, and Ill.: Bros.: PORTE, 33°, COOPER, 33°, YOUNG, 33°, and KARN, 33°, greatly assist them with work, counsel and advice.

The London Chapter of Rose Croix has the following membership:

Members last return	
New members	29
20	— 67
Deaths 4	7
Withdrawals 6	
Suspended 5	
	15
Total membership 2	52

The London Lodge of Perfection's membership is as follows:

Members last return	376
New members	21
	397
Lost by death and withdrawal	26
Total membership	37 I

I cannot close this report without saying that the bodies of the Rite in the Valley of London have had and still have Secretaries that are enthusiastic Masons, and their work has a great deal to do with making the work of the Rite the success it has reached in that city.

TORONTO.

The two bodies in this city are so closely interwoven that it would be invidious indeed to comment on the one without including the other.

I think that the Toronto members of the Rite seem to live for the success of it. I have been compelled, so to speak, to visit both bodies from time to time at the request of the presiding officers, to note the changes they have made in the manner of putting on the various degrees, the rendering and conferring of which is beyond criticism—beautiful as the author meant them to be, still more beautiful in the rendition and equipment as portrayed by our enthusiastic brethren of Toronto.

The Toronto brethren issued invitations for a banquet at the National Club on 25th April, 1908, to the members of the Rite in the Valley of Toronto, and each member had the right to invite a Master Mason to it, and judging from the result it proved to be a most successful gathering, and will in the end prove to be what our far-seeing brethren in Toronto had in view—a gathering that will eventually produce good results, so far as Scottish Rite Masonry is concerned in that city.

It is hardly necessary to say that these magnificent results in the Rite are largely due to Ill.. Bros. Allen, 33°, Webster, 33', Glanville, 33°, Eakins, 33°, McKnight, 33°, and White, 33°, who are closely in touch with the bodies in Toronto, and are always to be found in their places either in the Lodge or Chapter, doing all in their power to make our work a success.

This could not be accomplished without the earnest work of the officers in both Lodge and Chapter. A visit to Toronto is one long to be remembered, for the good work done in both Lodge and Chapter leaves an impression on one's mind that cannot soon be forgotten.

I issued a dispensation for the brethren to appear in regalia.

The Lodge of Perfection membership is as follows:

	Number of members last return	389
	New members	· I 4
		403
	Withdrawn I	403
	Suspended	
	Died	
		13
	Total	700
	I Mal	390
Cor	conto Chapter of Rose Croix:	
,	Number of members last return	207
	New members	8
	·	
	Withdrawn 1	215
	Died 4	5
	Total	210

HAMILTON.

It would be superfluous to report the work in this valley without taking into account the magnificent work done in the valley of Hamilton during the past year, but more especially during the reunion week, which is now looked upon as the week of the year, when Brethren from far and near make it their business to attend the Hamilton reunion as the event of the Rite in the Province of Ontario.

The past Reunion, held on the 28th to 30th January, 1908, was no exception to those held in former years, except that each year's work shows an improvement over that of the previous one, until it has reached the highest position possible, every member of the Rite making his work a specialty, and devoting his talents to exemplify what he believes to be the true rendition of the work.

In addition to our Canadian brethren, we were honored with a visit by the Illustrious Deputy for Pennsylvania, Ill., Bro.: James I. Buchanan, 33°, and Ill.: Bro.: Geo. W. G. Snyder, 32°, M. W. S., of Pittsburg Chapter of Rose Croix. It is needless to remark that both these brethren, as well as those who accompany them, are always welcome visitors to the Valley of Hamilton, especially Ill.: Bro.: Buchanan, 33°, who, as a Hamiltonian, is always welcomed by his brethren and old friends to the city under the mountain.

Cleveland, ever to the front, sent Ill.. Bros. ARNOLD, 33°, HANNON, 33°, HAZLETT, 33°, to visit our Hamilton reunion. These Brethren were all elected Honorary Members of the Rite in the Valley of Hamilton, an honor each and every one of them appreciated very much.

Murton Lodge of Perfection membership is as follows, viz.:

Membership last return	_
New members	30
Withdrawn 2	633
Withdrawn	
Died 8	
- matrix	10
Total	623

Died: E. A. DALLEY, W. DEWAR, B. EDWARDS, W. F. HASKINS, R. HILLS, C. V. HOWELL, HUGH MURRAY, REV. GEO. CHRYSTAL.

Hamilton Chapter of Rose Croix:

Membership last return	399
New members	23
	422
Died	5
m · t	Min Washing
Total	417

Died: Hugh Murray, 33° E. A. Dalley, 18°, B. Edwards, 18°, R. Hills, 32°, Wm. Dewar, 32°.

Moore Sovereign Consistory:

Membership last return	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	492
New members		56
	•	548
Died		10
Total		538

Died: Allen McLean, 32°, J. T. Johnston, 32°, Wm. Dewar, 32°, Roland Hills, 32°, Hugh Murray, 33°, B. W. Greer, 32°, Wm. Thackray, 32°, E. Egan. 32°, W. H. Blight, 32°, Rev. Geo. Chrystal, 32°.

GUELPH.

The Royal City Lodge of Perfection was visited by a large number of brethren on Good Friday, the 17th of April, 1908, and the work put on by the members of this Lodge left nothing to be desired; every officer had the work assigned to him engrafted on his heart. It certainly was a pleasure to myself, as well as to the brethren accompanying me, to see everything pass off without a hitch or stumble, reflecting the highest credit to the brethren of Guelph for the pains they had taken in making their second Re-union such a complete success.

We were favored with the presence of Ill.: Bro.: HUGH A. MACKAY, 33°, Treasurer-General; Ill.: Bros. BALLARD, 33°, F. J. HOWELL, 33°, A. T. FREED,

33°, and Ill.: Bro.: GEO. MOORE, 32°, the Grand H of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada. Nine candidates were admitted. The work was excellent. The way the Records and Books are kept by Bro.: PETRIE, JR., is such as might well be copied by many of the Secretaries of the Rite throughout the Province of Ontario.

The dispensation for a Chapter of Rose Croix has been granted by the Sovereign Grand Commander, and I have no doubt the ultimate results will prove the wisdom of the confidence he has placed in our Guelph brethren in granting them the right to start a Chapter of Rose Croix in the Royal City.

Total membership last return	94
New members	II
Restored	1
Total	106
Withdrawn	1
Total	105

I am deeply indebted to Ill.. Bro.. GEO. MOORE for his kindness in installing the officers of the Royal City Lodge of Perfection on the 16th day of March last, as my public duties in Ottawa prevented me from doing so.

KINGSTON.

There has been added to the Rose Croix Chapter one during the past year and one has been removed by death, making the membership 17, same as last year.

In the Lodge of Perfection last year the membership was as follows:

Membership	36
New members	3
	39
Withdrawals and deaths	2
Total membership	37

The additions to the Rite have not been what one might have expected, still it must be borne in mind that for a number of years the Rite has not been making the progress that it ought to do, but I am hopeful that Ill.: Bro.: Dr. RICH-ARDSON will infuse new life in the officers and members and pull the two bodies up to the high standard they formerly held in the City of Kingston.

BARRIE.

It affords me the greatest pleasure to report that Barrie Lodge of Perfection has had a most successful year, and that the report I was obliged to make last year has been the means of stirring up the brethren to a degree of enthusiasm that one would almost say was impossible.

I have not been able to pay a personal visit to our Barrie brethren, but I hope before the close of another year to have performed that pleasant duty.

The Lodge of Perfection has had seven members added to its roll during the past year:

Membership last return	52
New members	7
	59 2
Dicu	
Total	57
Died: J. W. Reid and Dr. J. C. Smith.	
Spry Chapter Rose Croix:	
Membership last return	25
Admitted	1
	26
Died	2
Present membership	24

CONCLUSION.

To the members of the Rite I desire to express my warmest thanks for all the kind things they have done to me during the past year.

To the members of Supreme Council I am likewise deeply indebted for their many acts of kindness and forbearance towards my many shortcomings. I have endeavored to discharge the duties of my office to the best of my ability, always keeping in view the high position my brethren entrusted to me when electing me for so many years Deputy of the Supreme Council for the great Province of Ontario.

Fraternally submitted,

WM. GIBSON, 33°,

Deputy for Ontario.

Beamsville, Oct. 26th, 1908.

QUEBEC.

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

My report of the doings of Scottish Rite Masonry in the Province of Quebec is possibly the most satisfactory of any I have had the honor of submitting to the Supreme Council. Not because we have added any unusual number to our roll of membership, but rather from the fact that a real interest exists in all the bodies

to improve the work, to do something out of the ordinary, to induce those whose interest may be inclined to wane to attend our meetings, and in short to make an evening employed in witnessing our beautiful degrees exemplified time well spent.

The secret of this condition undoubtedly can be attributed to the election and appointment of young men to fill the more important offices. They are full of ambition, they must have new and up-to-date regalia, they insist on all conditions being correct to suit the degree being exemplified, and they do not seem to be content unless they emulate the best. This undoubted zeal has been in evidence for the last few years, with the result that four additional degrees are now being exemplified, and a marked increase is noticeable in the attendance of members. A few years ago the fourth, fifth, fourteenth, eighteenth, thirtieth and thirty-second were exemplified, all others communicated in short form. To-day we have added to the above the sixth, seventh, ninth, thirteenth and thirty-first, communicating the remaining degrees with a short history and an intelligent insight into the teachings of each degree the aspirant is expected to subscribe to. The three Consistory degrees are exemplified in an elaborate and most impressive manner, the new regalia and surroundings being a revelation to many and a magnet to all.

The work of the Rose Croix Chapter has been as impressive as careful and interested officers can render it. In addition to our usual Thursday meetings we met on Easter Sunday for the first time in twenty years. I was unfortunately unable to be present, and missed hearing a very interesting address delivered by Ill.. Bro.. J. H. Shaw, 32°. Past Puissant Commander Ill.. Bro.. I. H. Stearns also addressed the meeting in an impressive way, and gave all present every encouragement to continue the old-time custom of Easter Day meetings.

During the year two brethren from Quebec came to Montreal to receive the Rose Croix degrees, showing the revival of interest in the ancient capital.

The Lodge of Perfection held four meetings during the year, all of which were unusually well attended for the reasons already mentioned. We had the pleasure at one of those meetings of electing our esteemed Grand Commander, Ill.: Bro.: The Hon. J. M. Gibson, and our beloved Past Grand Commander, Ill.: Bro.: The Hon. J. V. Ellis, honorary members, their acceptance of our action being much appreciated by the brethren at large.

On May 9th six of our members went to Quebec, conferring and communicating all the degrees in the Lodge of Perfection to five brethren. Quebec appreciated this attention very much indeed, and for the first time in many years our Secretary-General can report returns sent in from Quebec from both bodies. At the last meeting of the Lodge of Perfection eight brethren presented themselves for advancement, giving us a good start for the year just entered. Considering the class of men we insist upon, our progress is very satisfactory to us, and I hope it is appreciated by Supreme Council generally.

I endeavored to carry out my promise to Supreme Council in my last report by visiting members of the Supreme Council I have the honor to represent, but after two days' effort in Geneva I failed to meet either the Grand Commander or Secretary-General, the former living in Zurich and the latter at a place that was not on my route. I had, however, some interesting conversations with Swiss Masons, who were more than pleased to meet one from Canada who could sympathize with them in their efforts to obtain only the best material, surrounded as they are by the same conditions as we have at all times in this Province.

Returns have all been forwarded in compliance with the special request from our esteemed Secretary-General.

May I once more extend to the members of Supreme Council a hearty welcome to our Grand East, and I hope your stay among us will be conducive to much happiness.

I cannot close this report without conveying to our beloved Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander the congratulations of every member of the Rite in this Province on his appointment to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Ontario, an honor richly deserved, it being one of those rare distinctions where the office seeks the man. May his life and duties at Government House be at all times surrounded by every possible happiness.

The whole fraternally submitted,

B. Tooke,

Deputy for Quebec.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada:

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

In submitting my annual report as Deputy for the Province of New Brunswick, I regret that my expectations for a large increase in the membership of the A.: & A.: S.: Rite, referred to in my last annual report, have not been as fully realized as the conditions in Freemasonry apparently warranted at that time. However, I am glad to say that the returns for the year ending August 31st, 1908, show that there has been an addition of six members to the Lodge of Perfection, five to Harington Chapter Rose Croix, and two to the New Brunswick Consistory. Deducting the loss, through death, of two members, the total membership for the Province of New Brunswick stood at 224 at the close of the year, a gain of seven.

On the 15th of April last, I paid an official visit to the Lodge of Perfection and was received by T.: P.: G.: M.: EDWIN J. EVERETT, 33°, and officers of the Lodge, with full honors. On that occasion I had the pleasure of witnessing the work of the 4th and 5th degrees, on the six candidates referred to in this report, and was very much pleased with the impressive manner in which the work was done by the T.: P.: G.: M.: and officers of the Lodge, assisted by Past Sovereign Grand Commander John V. Ellis. After the work of the even-

ing was completed, all present were most hospitably entertained at supper by T.: P.: G.: M.: EVERETT in the banquet hall of the Lodge.

On the 29th of April I granted a dispensation to the Commander-in-Chief and officers of the New Brunswick Consistory to confer the 31st and 32nd degrees on Bros.: Leander B. Read and Nelson Arnold Withers. The former lives some distance from the City of St. John, and was anxious to get through in one night, and the other, being a Master Mariner, was only in the city for a short time, so that I felt justified in granting their request.

St. John Valley mourns the loss of two Illustrious Brethren in the Rite, R.: W.: Arthur I. Trueman, 32°, and Bro.: G. Gordon Boyne, 32°. R.: W.: Arthur I. Trueman held the honorable position of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick for a term of three years, 1901 to 1904, and by his careful attention to the business affairs of the Craft in the Province, as well as by the excellent qualities of his mind and heart, and his honorable character, won the confidence and esteem of the brethren. Ill.: Bro.: Trueman held many positions of importance and trust (among them being Judge of Probates for the City and County of St. John), all of which he filled to the entire satisfaction of his fellow citizens. By his removal we have sustained a severe loss, as has the community in which his active life was spent.

Ill.: Bro.: G. GORDON BOYNE was well known by the members of the Craft and the A.: S.: R.: throughout the Province of New Brunswick, as he took a very active interest in all branches of Masonry. His pleasant, genial manner, in whatever position he occupied, won for him many friends, and his loss to the Craft was deeply felt.

Since the official returns for the year, ending August 31st, 1908, have been forwarded to the Secretary-General, I granted a dispensation to confer degrees 15th to 32nd inclusive on Bros.: R. A. SQUIRES and J. FRANK TILLEY, and the 31st and 32nd degrees on Bro.: JAMES PATTON. As these brethren were about leaving the Province, and were anxious to obtain their degrees before going away, I felt that it would be in the interest of the Rite to meet their wishes.

I feel that I cannot close my report without referring to the very serious loss inflicted upon the Rite in St. John, through the death on the 19th of September last, of Ill.. Bro. Frank L. Tufts, 32°. Deeply interested in Freemasonry generally, he had served diligently in almost every department of the Fraternity, and was active in his own Lodge, as well as in Grand Lodge. He had filled many of the important offices in the Rite in our Province, and at the time of his death was Secretary to the Lodge of Perfection, the Rose Croix Chapter, and the Consistory. Diligent and faithful in all his work, beloved by his associates for his cheerfulness and kindness of heart, a most excellent citizen, his death creates a void which cannot soon be filled.

In closing this report, permit me to say that the members of the Rite in the Province of New Brunswick heard with feelings of satisfaction and pleasure of the honor conferred on our Ill.: Sov.: Grand Commander, and as the Deputy

for the Province, on behalf of the Rite, I extend to him the heartfelt congratulations of the Scottish Rite Masons of New Brunswick.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN D. CHIPMAN, 33°,

Deputy for New Brunswick.

St. Stephen, N. B., Oct. 26th, 1908.

NOVA SCOTIA.

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my annual report of the standing of the different bodies of the Scottish Rite in this jurisdiction, over which I have the honor to preside as your Deputy.

The Victoria Lodge of Perfection is in a most flourishing condition, largely owing to the great interest taken in the conferring of the degrees by the T.: P.: Grand Master, and his officers. The work was never so well performed, making the prospects of increased membership very bright for the future.

Keith Chapter Rose Croix, I am pleased to say, is in quite a similar position to that of Victoria Lodge. The Most Wise Sovereign and the officers under him are well up in their work, and the degrees are given in a manner that would do no discredit to any Chapter under the jurisdiction of our Supreme Council.

The Nova Scotia Consistory, I am also pleased to say, is in a good position, financially and otherwise, and has good prospects for increased membership for the incoming year.

The returns of the several bodies have been duly forwarded to the Illustrious Secretary-General, and will show the work done during the year, and the dispensations granted.

I regret very much being unable to attend the meeting of the Supreme Council this year, but trust I may be spared to meet you all next year in Winnipeg.

Fraternally submitted,

ALEX. STEPHEN, 33°,

Deputy for Nova Scotia.

Halifax, October 24th, 1908.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Seottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

I have very little progress to report. My own health has been very bad and

prevented me from giving closer attention to the work. In the Rose Croix Chapter we initiated or advanced two to the 18°, and held five meetings during the year. The Lodge of Perfection is prosperous. I granted one dispensation for advancement to the fourth in less than the statutory time. I conferred the 32nd on the following six brethren by dispensation from the Grand Commander, viz.: Hon. John Yeo, Rev. Thomas Blanchard Reagh, George S. Inman, Daniel F. Macdonald, Neil Macdonald and William H. Batt, and we have ten or twelve more to advance when we receive the warrant for Consistory. Peace and harmony prevail, and the prospects for the future are good.

The returns for the Lodge of Perfection will be sent in a few days, as soon as the officers return from Ottawa.

I regret very much to have to inform you that I am still unwell and am afraid to risk the journey to Montreal next week, and would ask that the Supreme Council will be pleased to excuse me. DR. DARRACH is going and will explain all matters in re Consistory, and I trust that the prayer of our petition for a Consistory will be granted. Hoping and trusting that you will have a pleasant and happy meeting, and that everything will pass off agreeably, I remain, yours fraternally,

R. Macneill, 33°,

Deputy for P. E. Island.

Charlottetown, Oct. 22nd, 1908.

MANITOBA.

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

I have the honor of again submitting my report on the condition and progress of the Rite in Manitoba during the past year.

The following are the changes in the three different bodies during the year: In the Lodge of Perfection—New members, 22; affiliated, 3; died, 4; withdrawn, 2; present membership, 359.

Rose Croix Chapter—New members, 11; affiliated, 4; died, 4; withdrawn, 1; present membership, 162.

Consistory—New members, 7; died, 3; restored, 1; present membership, 116.

We held our usual annual Re-union on the 12th and 13th of last June, which was well attended by a large number of members from the western part of the Province, and also from Saskatchewan. Good work was done, and a pleasant time spent in meeting old friends.

I am pleased to report that the three bodies—Lodge, Chapter and Consistory—are all in prosperous condition financially, and that harmony prevails in the Valley of Winnipeg.

During the past year I have granted thirteen dispensations for conferring degrees within the prescribed time, considering it to be in the best interests of the Rite, full returns of which have been made to the Illustrious Secretary-General, together with all fees and dues, in accordance with the Statutes.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN MCKECHNIE, 33°, Deputy for Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Winnipeg, Man., Oct. 24th, 1908.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.:. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

I have much pleasure in forwarding my Annual Report as Special Deputy for the Province of British Columbia.

The returns made covering the three branches of the Rite exhibit a very satisfactory and healthy condition in this part of your jurisdiction. The returns would show a larger increase had all the applications received outside the city presented themselves this year. They were waiting for the Re-union held the early part of this month, and of course will appear in my next report. Sixteen dispensations were granted by me for the Consistory Degrees, and considering the applications were in the best interests of the Rite I did not hesitate in acceding to the request.

The attendance this year, at all our meetings, has been very gratifying, the Easter Ceremonies particularly. We were favored with a splendid address, delivered by Ill.: Bro.: REV. H. W. FRASER, 32°. It was a masterly address, and one long to be remembered by the Sovereign Princes present.

The grim reaper death has again entered our ranks and removed from us two very worthy and much esteemed brethren, Col. J. C. White, 32°, and A. A. Boak, 14°.

It was particularly pleasing to all the members of the A.: & A.: Scottish Rite in the Valley of Vancouver to welcome back last October, to our Province, the two popular brethren, Ill.: Bro.: J. E. MILLER and Ill.: Bro.: H. H. WATSON, as our new 33°. The brethren appreciate fully the honor conferred upon them and on our Consistory by the Supreme Council.

I am sure the prompt acceptance of my recommendation will redound to the credit of the Rite throughout this Valley.

The returns of the several bodies, together with the regular fees, have been forwarded to the Illustrious Secretary-General, in accordance with the statute.

I regret exceedingly not being able to attend this year's meeting of the Supreme Council. I need not express my reasons for non-attendance. I am sure you will understand the cause is a real one which prevents this long promised pleasure. Ill.: Bros.: WATSON and MILLER are also unable to make such a long trip at this period of the year, and wish me to express their keen regret.

Fraternally submitted,

J. R. SEYMOUR, 33°,

Special Deputy for British Columbia.

Vancouver, B. C., 16th Oct., 1908.

These reports were, on motion of Ill.: Bro.: MACWATT, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: W. GIBSON, referred to the Committee on Doings of Inspectors-General and Special Deputies.

The Committee on the Doings of Subordinate Bodies presented the following report:

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.: Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

Your Committee on the Doings of Subordinate Bodies beg to report:

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

EDMONTON.

Mizpah Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on twenty-one brethren.

Membership 39.

Fees \$51.75.

Edmonton Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on fourteen brethren.

Affiliated eight. Membership 82.

Fees \$59.50.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

VANCOUVER.

British Columbia Consistory conferred the 30° on eight, 31° on eight, 32° on eight brethren.

Died one, Bro.: J. C. WHYTE.

Membership 47.

Fees \$67.75.

Vancouver Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on ten brethren.

Affiliated one.

Died one, Bro.: J. C. WHYTE.

Membership 74.

Fees \$38.50.

Vancouver Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on ten brethren.

Affiliated four.

Withdrawn one.

Died three, Bros.: E. HARRISON, J. C. WHYTE, A. A. BOAK.

Membership 125.

Fees \$68.50.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

WINNIPEG.

Manitoba Consistory conferred the 30° on seven, 31° on seven, 32° on seven brethren.

Restored one.

Died three, Bros.: H. MURRAY, J. BAILEY, R. MUIR.

Membership 106.

Fees \$74.50.

Bethesda Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on eleven brethren.

Affiliated four.

Withdrawn one.

Died four, Bros.: H. MURRAY, J. BAILEY, T. ROBINSON, R. MUIR.

Membership 167.

Fees \$64.25.

Winnipeg Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on twenty-two brethren.

Affiliated four.

Withdrawn two.

Died four, Bros.: J. McBride, J. Bailey, T. Robinson, R. Muir.

Membership 360.

Fees \$156.00.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN.

New Brunswick Consistory conferred the 30° on two, 31° on two, 32° on two brethren.

Died two, Bros.: G. G. BOYNE, A. J. TRUEMAN.

Membership 58.

Fees \$24.50.

Harington Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on five brethren.

Died two, Bros.: G. G. BOYNE, A. J. TRUEMAN.

Membership 75.

Fees \$28.75.

St. John Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on six brethren.

Died two, Bros.: G. G. BOYNE, A. J. TRUEMAN.

Membership 91.

Fees \$40.75.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.

Nova Scotia Consistory conferred the 30° on five, 31° on five, 32° on five brethren.

Withdrawn two.

Membership 38.

Fees \$45.50.

Keith Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on seven brethren.

Withdrawn two.

Membership 57.

Fees \$28.25.

Victoria Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on six brethren.

Restored one.

Affiliated one.

Withdrawn two.

Membership 72.

Fees \$36.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

HAMILTON.

Moore Consistory conferred the 30° on fifty-two, 31° on fifty-five, 32° on thirty-nine brethren.

Affiliated four.

Died ten, Bros.: H. Murray, W. Dewar, R. Hills, B. W. Greer, E. Egan, W. Thackray, W. H. Blight, G. Crystal, A. McLean, J. T. Johnston.

Membership 537.

Fees \$394.50.

Hamilton Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on twenty-eight brethren.

Died five, Bros.: H. MURRAY, R. HILLS, E. A. DALLEY, W. DEWAR, B. EDWARDS.

Membership 417.

Fees \$153.25.

Murton Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on twenty-seven brethren.

Affiliated four.

Withdrawn two.

Died eight, Bros.: H. Murray, E. A. Dalley, W. Dewar, B. Edwards, R. Hills, W. F. Haskins, C. V. Howell, G. Chrystal.

Membership 623.

Fees \$233.75.

BARRIE.

Spry Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on one brother.

Died two, Bros.: J. F. W. REED, J. C. SMITH.

Membership 24.

Fees \$8.00.

Barrie Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on seven brethren.

Died two, Bros.: J. F. W. REED, J. C. SMITH.

Membership 58.

Fees \$35.50.

GUELPH.

Royal City Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on ten brethren.
Restored one.
Withdrawn one.
Membership 105.
Fees \$59.25.

KINGSTON.

Rose of Sharon Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on one brother.

Died one, Bro.: Allan McLean.

Membership 17.

Fees \$6.25.

Kingston Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on three brethren.

Withdrawn one.

Died one, Bro.: ALLAN MCLEAN.

Membership 37.

LONDON.

London Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on twenty-three brethren. Withdrawn six.

Suspended five.

Fees \$18.25.

Died four, Bros.: A. H. WHITE, B. W. GREER, W. H. WILLS, S. C. ZIMMERMAN.

Membership 252.

Fees \$121.00.

London Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on twenty-two brethren.

Withdrawn seven.

Suspended thirteen.

Died six, Bros.: A. H. WHITE, B. W. GREER, W. H. WILLS, H. MURRAY, S. POUND, S. C. ZIMMERMAN.

Membership 369.

Fees \$155.75.

OTTAWA.

Murray Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on sixteen brethren.

Restored one.

Withdrawn one.

Died three, Bros.: H. MURRAY, N. W. CLEARY, W. THACKRAY.

Membership 184.

Fees \$82.00.

Ottawa Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on twenty-one brethren.

Affiliated one.

Withdrawn two.

Died three, Bros.: N. W. CLEARY, W. THACKRAY, G. M. RYERSON.

Membership 294.

Fees \$130.50.

TORONTO.

Toronto Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on seven brethren.

Withdrawn one.

Died four, Bros.: D. Hoskins, H. Lowndes, J. T. Johnson, W. H. Blight.

Membership 207.

Fees \$67.75.

Toronto Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on twelve brethren.

Died eleven, Bros.: H. Murray, J. Hetherington, E. Egan, F. F. Manley, D. Hoskins, H. Lowndes, T. Hutchison, P. Cooper, J. T. Johnston, A. H. Smith, W. H. Blight.

Withdrawn one.

Suspended one.

Membership 390.

Fees \$139.50.

PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

CHARLOTTETOWN.

Charlottetown Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on two brethren.

Died one, Bro.: A. J. TRUEMAN.

Withdrawn one.

Membership 30.

Fees \$11.50.

Albert Edward Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on three brethren.

Withdrawn one.

Membership 52.

Fees \$23.00.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

MONTREAL.

Montreal Consistory conferred the 30° on thirteen, 31° on six, 32° on seven brethren.

Affiliated one.

Died one, Bro.: H. H. HENSHAW.

Membership 108.

Fees \$92.00.

Hochelaga Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on eight brethren.

Affiliated two.

Died one, Bro.: H. H. HENSHAW.

Membership 124.

Fees \$47.00.

Hochelaga Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on eight brethren.

Affiliated five.

Died two, Bros.: F. C. HENSHAW, H. H. HENSHAW.

Membership 149.

Fees \$61.25.

QUEBEC.

Report for 1907.

Quebec Chapter of Rose Croix conferred the 18° on three brethren.

Died two, Bros.: R. W. NORMAN, G. STEWART.

Membership 14.

Fees \$9.50.

Report for 1908.

Conferred the 18° degree on two brethren.

Affiliated one.

Membership 17.

Fees \$8.25.

Report for 1907.

Quebec Lodge of Perfection conferred the 14° on eight brethren.

Affiliated one.

Withdrawn one.

Died one, Bro.: H. MORGAN.

Membership 24.

Fees \$33.00.

Report for 1908.

Conferred the 14° on five brethren.

Affiliated one.

Withdrawn two.

Membership 28.

Fees \$23.00.

Fraternally submitted,

H. A. MACKAY, 33°,

Chairman.

Berlin, Ont., 30th September, 1908.

This report was received on motion of Ill.: Bro.: ELLIS, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: MACWATT.

The Supreme Council was then called off in General Session, and the

FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

was opened at 1.15 o'clock p. m.

It was announced that Ill.: Bros.: ROBERT ALLEN THOMPSON, of Hamilton, Ont., and JOHN THOMAS BLUNDELL PERSSE, of Winnipeg, Man., Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, 32°, proposed for the degree of Honorary Inspector-General, and nominated at a previous Annual Session of the Supreme Council, would be voted for at this Session by viva voce vote.

The Roll was accordingly called, and the vote in their favor having been found to be unanimous, these two brethren were declared duly elected.

The Executive Session was then closed at 1.30 o'clock p. m.

The Supreme Council resumed labor in General Session at 3 o'clock p. m.

JEWELS PRESENTED.

The Ill.: Bro.: James H. Codding, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, stated that as there were two illustrious brethren present who had been elected honorary members of his Supreme Council, and had not yet received the distinctive decoration which was intended to accompany such election, he wished to take the present opportunity to present to Ill.: Bros.: Ellis and Stearns the jewels worn by Ill.: Bros.: holding this rank.

The recipients of these medals expressed their acknowledgments in felicitous terms.

The Supreme Council was then called off in General Session, and the

SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION

was opened at 3.20 o'clock p. m.

The following Honorary Inspectors-General were nominated to be Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General:

WILLIAM GEORGE EAKINS, Toronto, Ont. SIDNEY ALBERT LUKE, Ottawa, Ont.

The roll having been called on each nomination Ill.: Bros.: EAKINS and LUKE were elected by viva voce vote.

The Executive Session was closed at 5.10 o'clock p. m. and the Supreme Council was called off to meet at 10 o'clock on Thursday.

THURSDAY, Oct. 24th, 1907.

The Supreme Council resumed labor in General Session at 10.20 o'clock a.m.

PRESENT-OFFICERS.

Ill.: Bro.: Hon. John M. Gibson, K. C., LL. D., 33°,

M.: P.: Sovereign Grand Commander.

- " WILLIAM H. THORNE, 33°,
 - Lieutenant Grand Commander.
- " WILLIAM H. BALLARD, 33°, Secretary-General H.: E.:

Ill.: Bro.: HUGH A. MACKAY, 33°,

Treasurer-General H .: E .:

Grand Chancellor.

" Angus W. Hooper, 33°,

Grand Master of Ceremonies.

" ENOCH B. BUTTERWORTH, 33°,

Grand Marshal.

" CHARLES W. HAGAR, 33°,

Grand Standard Bearer.

" BENJAMIN ALLEN, 33",

Grand Captain of the Guard.

ACTIVE MEMBERS, S.:G.:I.:G.:, 33°.

Illustrious Brothers:

Hon. John V. Ellis.

ISAAC H. STEARNS.

BENJAMIN TOOKE.

JOHN D. CHIPMAN.

E. T. MALONE.

DANIEL F. MACWATT.

Hon. Wm. Gibson.

HONORARY INSPECTORS-GENERAL, 33°.

Illustrious Brothers:

ANDREW W. PORTE.

W. R. WHITE.

Donald Darrach.

THOMAS LEES.

JAMES GLANVILLE.

WM. GEO. EAKINS.

FRED. J. HOWELL.

SIDNEY A. LUKE.

E. J. EVERETT.

ALEX. McDougall

CHARLES RAYNES.

W. H. WETHERBY.

A. E. COOPER.

WILLIAM A. YOUNG.

T. HARRY WEBB

JOHN McKNIGHT.

JOHN ROBERTSON.

THOMAS WALKER.

AUBREY WHITE.

The Committee on Audit and Finance presented the following report:

To the Supreme Council A... & A.. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

The Committee on Audit and Finance beg leave to report that they have checked the cash statements laid before them and verified the disbursements by vouchers for the year ended 30th September, 1908, and find the same in order.

Your Committee are of opinion that the balance on hand warrants the investment of an additional three thousand dollars, and recommend that that amount be invested in some trust security.

Fraternally submitted,

Angus W. Hooper, 33°, Chairman.

This report, on motion by Ill.: Bro.: HOOPER, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: W. GIBSON, was received and adopted.

It was moved by Ill.: Bro: BENJAMIN ALLEN, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: Wm. GIBSON, and resolved:

That Lachlan T. Locheed, 14°, of the Toronto Lodge of Perfection, having been expelled by the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario on a charge of "desertion of wife and family and adultery," is hereby, in accordance with and pursuance of Section 79 of the Statutes and Regulations of this Supreme Council, declared to be an expelled member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, such expulsion to have effect in all the bodies of the Rite under the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council.

The Thirty-third degree was conferred in full form on the following S. P. R. S., 32°: ROBERT ALLEN THOMPSON, Hamilton, Ont., and JOHN THOMAS BLUNDELL PERSSE, Winnipeg, Man., elected to receive the same at this Session, and they were received, welcomed and proclaimed as Honorary Inspectors-General, and enrolled as Honorary Members of the Supreme Council for the Dominion of Canada.

The Committee on Doings of Inspectors-General and Special Deputies presented the following report:

To the Supreme Council A.:. & A.: Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

Your Committee on the Doings of Inspectors-General and Special Deputies have much pleasure in reporting that the evidence submitted to them shows continued progress in the Rite in almost every section of the jurisdiction.

The Illustrious Deputy for Ontario speaks with great satisfaction of the condition of affairs in each Valley under his care, except one, and in the latter he looks for the infusion of new life as the result of the efforts now being made.

The success of the Re-unions held during the year in Hamilton, London, Ottawa and Guelph is noted, not only because of their good effect upon the parties holding them, but for the additional reason that they afford a means of creating uniformity of the work in the various degrees throughout the Province. The improvement in the condition of the Rite in Barrie is mentioned with great satisfaction. The report of the Illustrious Deputy is a most gratifying one, tempered only by its allusion to the great loss which the Rite, not in Ontario alone, but throughout Canada, suffered during the year by the death of our beloved brother, Hugh Murray, 33°, Grand Chancellor.

The Illustrious Deputy for Quebec presents a report that is inspiring, because of its testimony as to the results of the earnest work of the younger men who are doing so much to forward the interests of the Rite in this difficult field. The Revival in the City of Quebec is a matter of special congratulation.

The report of the Illustrious Deputy for New Brunswick shows gratifying progress, but brings tidings of serious losses to the Rite in the deaths of eminent members who have been pillars of Masonry generally in that Province.

From Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and British Columbia come messages of prosperity, financial and otherwise, which are most encouraging.

No report has been received from the Special Deputy for the Province of Alberta.

Fraternally submitted,

BENJAMIN ALLEN, 33°,

Chairman.

On motion by Ill.: Bro.: ALLEN, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: HAGAR, this report was received and adopted.

The Supreme Council was then called off in General Session and the

THIRD EXECUTIVE SESSION

was opened at 12 o'clock noon.

The office of Grand Chancellor having become vacant by the death of Ill.: Bro.: HUGH MURRAY, an election was held to fill the vacancy, and Ill.: Bro.: BENJAMIN TOOKE was duly elected and installed in this office.

Ill.: Bro.: WILLIAM GEORGE EAKINS, of Toronto, and Ill.: Bro.: SIDNEY ALBERT LUKE, of Ottawa, Ontario, were severally introduced and crowned Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General, 33°, and Active Members of the Supreme Council.

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The Supreme Council was closed in Executive Session at 12.45 o'clock. The

FOURTH EXECUTIVE SESSION

was opened at 2.30 o'clock p. m.

On motion by Ill.: Bro.: Ellis, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: W. Gibson, Honorary Membership in this Supreme Council was conferred upon Very Ill.: Bro.: Jean Marie Raymond, 33°, M. P., Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for France, and upon Ill.: Bro.: William Homan, 33°, Active Member of the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction U. S. A., and the Deputy of that Council for the State of New York.

The Executive Session was closed at 2.50 p.m., and the Supreme Council resumed labor in General Session.

Ill.: Bros.: ELLIS and MACKAY, at the request of the Sovereign Grand Commander, retired and introduced Ill.: Bro.: HOMAN.

The Sovereign Grand Commander, assisted by the members of the Council, received Bro.: Homan in due form as an honorary member, and in felicitous terms complimented him on the success of his investigations in the field of Scottish Rite History.

BRO.: HOMAN replied in a most happy manner, thanking the Council for the action just taken, alluding to the indissoluble bond of fraternal union joining together the two Councils, and the generous attitude and kindly sentiments mutually entertained by their members.

The Special Committee on the address of the Sovereign Grand Commander presented the following report:

To the Supreme Council A.. & A.. Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

The Committee selected to report on the address of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander regrets that the limitation of time at its disposal caused by the length of the Executive Session, and by the extremely generous hospitality of the Montreal brethren, hardly permits more than a few brief observations by way of report.

This will not materially matter, as the most important topics dwelt upon specially by the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander shall form the subject of the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Your Committee feels that the first matter which deserves attention is one not referred to in the address of the Sovereign Grand Commander, viz., that of his appointment by the Federal Government to the high office of Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario, and your Committee feels that it is expressing the opinions of every member of the Supreme Council, both active and honorary, when it commends the action of the Government in appointing one so well and highly qualified to fill that high and honorable position. Your Committee is convinced that it expresses the feelings of every individual member of the Supreme Council when it trusts that our Sovereign Grand Commander may be long spared to fill the high office to which he has been appointed in the great and important Province of Ontario.

The Sovereign Grand Commander refers to the "almost" unbroken position of our ranks as a Supreme Council during the past year. Yet, as he remarks, the word "almost" is very significant. Illustrious Brother Hugh Murray was no ordinary man. He occupied a high and honorable position in Masonry and, in fact, in every branch in Masonry in the Province of Ontario, and his work for

and attachment to the Rite were well known to all, but especially to the members of the Supreme Council. His loss is one which affects all branches of Masonry, but in none of those will it be so keenly felt as in the Rite. The Illustrious Deputy for Ontario in his report has well said: "He was a man." What more can we say?

Illustrious Brother WEBBER, 33°, the Secretary-General of the Southern Jurisdiction—the Mother Supreme Council—for so many years, is also a great loss to Scottish Rite Masonry. Those of us who met him here and in Washington will always remember his genial and kind manner, and his ready desire to do what he could to assist members of the Rite in every possible way.

He was the last and most intimate friend of Illustrious Brother Pike, and it is to be hoped that from the fund of information he must have had, he has left full and complete reminiscences.

Your Committee joins with the Sovereign Grand Commander in his regrets at the number of Brethren who have been called away in Sister Supreme Councils.

Illustrious Brothers BARNARD and McCurdy were strong and able brethren whose deaths are a distinct loss, not only to the jurisdiction in which they resided, but to the Scottish Rite world generally.

Your Committee rejoices with the Sovereign Grand Commander that in Home affairs our progress has been considerable, and our relations as a Body harmonious. Too much stress cannot be placed on his remarks, that intelligence and high moral character should characterize those who seek advancement to our Order. Quality rather than quantity should be our watchword; if we maintain the high standard we have hitherto attained, we shall be doing our duty as members of the Rite.

It is a source of satisfaction to the members of the Supreme Council that so many successful Re-unions have been held, and also that the Easter Ceremonies have been so generally observed.

On the question of vested interests your Committee agrees with the Sovereign Grand Commander, that if this matter be proceeded with, it should be formally stated by and on behalf of those who feel aggrieved, and the evidence of life membership should be full and complete. In this way only can the question be dealt with at the next session of the Supreme Council.

As to granting a warrant to the Rose Croix Chapter in Guelph, while the allocution of the Sovereign Grand Commander does not say that work has been done, yet as your Committee understands that the Sovereign Grand Commander has had positive information since writing his address that the Chapter has conferred degrees under the dispensation, and as it is not only able to confer the degrees properly, but all the requisites are on hand, your Committee recommends that a warrant be granted to those applying therefor.

With reference to the granting of a warrant to a Consistory in Prince Edward

Island, your Committee feels that with such a small membership, in both the Lodge of Perfection and Chapter, it is questionable whether such should be granted yet. Yet it is felt that the matter is safe in the hands of the Sovereign Grand Commander, and recommends that he have full power to deal therewith during the ensuing year.

It is satisfactory to know that our relations with all the recognized Supreme Councils throughout the world have been harmonious.

Your Committee recommends that the appointments made by the Sovereign Grand Commander of representatives of our Supreme Council near foreign Supreme Councils be approved.

The refusal of the Sovereign Grand Commander to recognize the so-called "Supreme Council of New Zealand" is approved.

It is very gratifying to learn that the Sovereign Grand Commander has been so cordially received by all the sister Supreme Councils which he has had the time and opportunity to visit. It is not only a tribute to our Sovereign Grand Gommander as a Mason, but should be recognized by us as an honor to our Supreme Council.

It is to be regretted that the well-known and beloved Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Jurisdiction was unable to visit our jurisdiction this year. An effort should be made to have the heads of the sister jurisdictions in the United States meet with us at an early date, and receive at our hands a genuine Canadian welcome.

It is a source of satisfaction to the Supreme Council to learn that the next International Conference is to be held in Washington, D. C. It seems to your Committee that the periodical meeting of the heads of the Rite from every quarter of the globe is very desirable.

The Supreme Council, through this Committee, desires to express its gratification at the action of the Supreme Councils of Belgium and France, in conferring on our beloved Sovereign Grand Commander honorary membership in their respective bodies. While the Sovereign Grand Commander intimates that these honors were conferred on him as a tribute to this Supreme Council, your Committee feels that there is more in the honor than that, and that his presence and activity in the work of the International Conference, held in Brussels last year, impelled the Supreme Council of Belgium and also that of France to confer on him these high honors.

As under the laws and general statutes of the Rite, as well as of Masonry in general, the "Grand Lodge of Jerusalem" is a bogus body, and your Committee agrees with the Sovereign Grand Commander that the position of the Supreme Council of Egypt is absolutely correct, and that the so-called "Grand Lodge of Jerusalem" is repugnant to all our ideas of Masonry.

This Supreme Council desires to put itself on record as opposed in toto to

anything in the nature of atheistical doctrines, and that political agitation of any kind is foreign to and detrimental to the tenets of Masonry.

With reference to the correspondence from the Sovereign Grand Commander of Greece, as to the formation of a new and spurious body in that jurisdiction, and also the communications from the Supreme Council of Mexico, your Committee feels that these matters can be properly and advantageously handled by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

As to Italy, this Supreme Council having recognized, as all the other Supreme Councils throughout the world have recognized its Supreme Council, it would be improper to give recognition to anything in the nature of a "rebellious" Supreme Council, and if, as appears from the only information we have, Illustrious Brother Ballori has resigned his office of Sovereign Grand Commander, to take the position of presiding officer in a so-called new Supreme Council, a question must naturally arise as to his position as representative of this Supreme Council near the Supreme Council of Italy.

While the information received by the Sovereign Grand Commander seems to be definite, nothing has been received from the so-called new Supreme Council but a circular giving the names of the officers elected, and no argument has been received in favor of the new body, which seems to be political in its nature, and if such is the case, it ought not to be approved by this Supreme Council.

It seems to your Committee that the sooner our Latin brethren adopt and act on the fundamental principle that Masonry should not interfere in political discussions of any kind, the better it will be for the Rite throughout the world at large. Our Sovereign Grand Commander has clearly and correctly stated the position of affairs so far as information has been received, and this Supreme Council should, in no uncertain terms, approve of his action and his references therein. Your Committee reiterates that Masonry has nothing to do with politics in any shape or form, and that atheism is detestable, as well as inconsistent with the principles and tenets of the Rite.

The members of the Rite in this jurisdiction will be glad to learn that the acceptance by the Sovereign Grand Commander of the high office to which he has been appointed will not necessitate his withdrawal from the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Rite, and we all trust that he may be able to complete his term of office as Sovereign Grand Commander, a position which he fills with so much satisfaction to all the members of the Rite in this jurisdiction.

And may Our Father in Heaven prosper his endeavors, and in all things guide and bless him.

D. F. MACWATT, 33°, W. H. THORNE, 33°, Wm. Gibson, 33°.

It was moved by Ill.: Bro.: MACKAY, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: STEARNS, and resolved, that a message be sent to M.: P.: Sovereign Grand Commander PALMER, expressing regret that he found it absolutely impossible to visit us on this occasion, and the sincere hope by every member that his usual health and vigor may be re-established, and that though in the ninetieth year of his age he may yet be spared as the greatly revered and respected Nestor of the Rite on this continent.

To this message the following reply was received:

Hon. John Morison Gibson,
Sovereign Grand Commander, Hamilton, Ont.:

Accept my grateful thanks for the kindly greetings and good wishes of your-self and the members of the Supreme Council for Canada, received this morning. My inability to be with you is a great disappointment; hearty wishes for the progress and prosperity of your Supreme Council and for choicest of heaven's blessings for all its members.

H. L. PALMER.

On motion of Ill.: Bro.: HOOPER, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: ALLEN, it was resolved that the next Annual Session of the Supreme Council be held in the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario.

The Sovereign Grand Commander then appointed the Standing Committees, as follows:

On Audit and Finance:

Ill.: Bro.: A. W. HOOPER.

" E. B. BUTTERWORTH.

" S. A. LUKE.

On Foreign Correspondence and Relations:

Ill.: Bro.: JOHN V. ELLIS.

" W. H. THORNE.

" J. D. CHIPMAN.

On Jurisprudence and Legislation:

Ill.: Bro.: D. F. MACWATT.

- " H. A. MACKAY.
- " E. T. MALONE.

On the Doings of Subordinate Bodies:

Ill.: Bro.: H. A. MACKAY.

- " " JOHN MCKECHNIE.
- " J. D. CHIPMAN.

On the Doings of Inspectors-General and Special Deputies:

Ill.: Bro.: B. ALLEN.

- " W. H. BALLARD.
- " C. W. HAGAR.

On the Library and Ritualistic Matter:

Ill.: Bro.: W. H. BALLARD.

- ". " ALEX. STEPHEN.
- " W. G. EAKINS.

On motion of Ill.: Bro.: Allen, seconded by Ill.: Bro.: Ballard, the thanks of the Supreme Council were passed to the officers and brethren of the Rite in the Valley of Montreal for the attention and hospitality which had been so generously bestowed on the members of the Council during the Session.

The box of fraternal assistance was then passed, and the collection donated to the bodies of the Rite in Montreal.

The labors of the Supreme Council being ended, the Chain-of-Union was formed, and the Council was closed at

4.15 o'clock p. m., to assemble again in the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, on the fourth Wednesday in October, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m.



Sovereign Grand Commander.

I h. H. Ballard 33

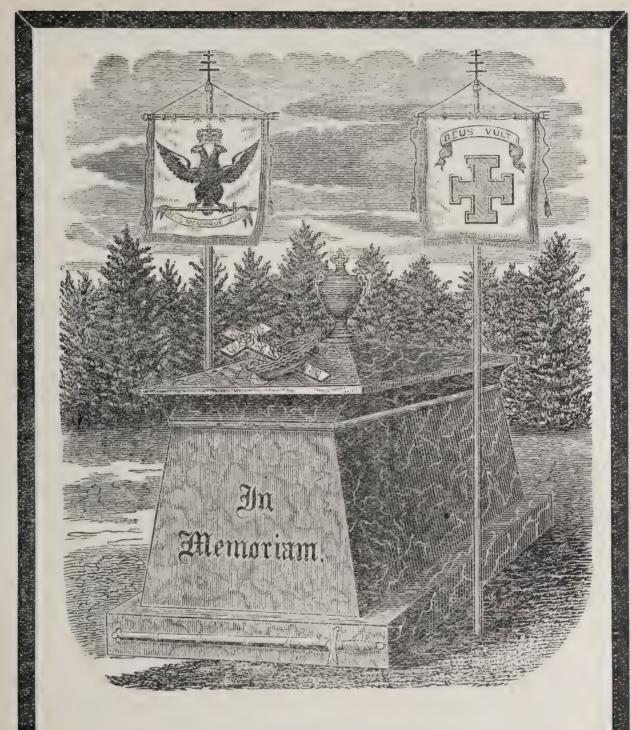
Secretary-General, H.: E.:.





An Memoriam





ILLUSTRIOUS BROTHER

Thugh Murray, 33°,

GRAND CHANCELLOR OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

-FOR-

THE DOMINION OF CANADA.



From the East of the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Dominion of Canada, whose See is in the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, near the B. B. and under the C. C. of that Zenith, which answers unto 45° 31' North Latitude, and 73° 20' West Longitude of the Meridian of Greenwich.

TO ALL FREEMASONS OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF THE OBEDIENCE OF THIS SUPREME COUNCIL.

My DEAR BRETHREN:

It has become my sad and painful duty to announce the recent death of a dearly deloved and very distinguished brother, who was the Grand Chancellor, and one of the oldest members of the Supreme Council of this jurisdiction. On the 28th day of November last, Illustrious Brother Hugh Murray, 33°, closed his earthly career, passed the portals which separate the living from the dead, and entered into the new life in the eternity beyond.

Illustrious Brother MURRAY was a native of Scotland, born at Paisley in 1843, and came to Canada in 1860, settling in Hamilton, where he resided till his death.

He first saw light in Masonry in Acacia Lodge, No. 61, in 1868, and in 1871 and in 1872 was W. M. of the Lodge, giving great promise of a future career of distinction by the thoroughness of his work and the zeal and energy he displayed in discharging his duties. Later on when Wentworth Lodge, No. 166, at Stoney Creek, was in a moribund condition, he became W. M. of that Lodge, and by his individual persevering and determined efforts, made it a vigorous and prosperous body. In the course of his career he became First Principal of St. John's Chapter, No. 6, R. A. M.; Eminent Preceptor of Godfrey de Bouillon Preceptory; Thrice Puissant Grand Master of Murton Lodge of Perfection; Most Wise Sovereign of Hamilton Chapter of Rose Croix; Commander-in-Chief of Moore Sovereign Consistory, and at the time of his death was Provincial Grand Master for Ontario and Quebec, of the Royal Order of Scotland.

In Craft Masonry he was D. D. G. M. for Hamilton District in 1877, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, in 1882 and 1883, and Grand Master in 1884 and 1885. Subsequently he was Grand Treasurer from 1901 to 1903, when he became Grand Secretary, which position he held during the remainder of his life. He was an affiliated member of all the Lodges in Hamilton.

Illustrious Brother Murray was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector-General 33° in 1876. He succeeded the late Illustrious Brother John W. Murton, 33°, as Grand Secretary-General in 1886, continuing in that office eighteen years, when in 1904 he resigned and became Grand Chancellor. He was Deputy of Supreme Council for Ontario from 1883 to 1886, and Deputy for British Columbia from 1889 to 1892. From 1888 he was Representative in Canada of the Supreme Council for Italy.

Prior to 1880 he was engaged in mercantile business, but in that year became Chief Clerk of the Customs Department in Hamilton, holding that position until his appointment as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1903.

For twenty-five years he was a prominent member of the Board of Education in Hamilton, and was Chairman of the Board for two years. His work in connection with the educational system of Hamilton was characterized by its thoroughness and independence. The best interests of the schools were his sole and exclusive aim.

He was for several years a member of the Art School Board and took a deep interest also in the city's Public Library.

Brother MURRAY was a member of the First Methodist Church and devoted himself very earnestly and zealously to the various departments of church work. For many years he was Superintendent of the Sunday School, and the funeral services amply testified how completely he had endeared himself to the children.

Brother Murray's life touched the Masonic, civic and religious activities of the community in so many points that it is impossible to refer in an adequate manner to his many estimable and strong qualities of disposition in a few short paragraphs.

He was a man of great force of character, but withal calm and considerate in judgment, weighing with extreme care and unusual thoroughness all arguments worthy of consideration before reaching a conclusion. The utmost courtesy was always displayed by him in receiving suggestions or meeting the arguments of an opponent; but having once marked out his course he was unusually happy in pursuit of his objective point. At the same time he was unusually happy in reconciling conflicting opinions and arguments, and in reaching a middle course satisfactory to contending parties. His work in the various degrees was always earnest and impressive. He liked a good part in a good degree and his rendering was generally the conspicuous feature of the degree.

A man of great ability and individuality, who knew and was known by almost every one in the community, universally popular without working for popularity, kind hearted and sympathetic, bright and cheerful as a companion, a loving and devoted husband, a dutiful and affectionate father—in short an all round good man—his departure from among us leaves a conspicuous blank which we can scarcely hope to see filled by any one grouping in himself all the qualities of head and heart which characterized our late dear brother. His family have our heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement.

As a mark of respect to the memory of our departed brother the usual badge of mourning will be worn for a period of sixty days from the reading of this letter, and may Our Father in Heaven have you always in His holy keeping.

Given under my hand and seal of Supreme Council this 14th day of December, 1907.

J. M. GIBSON, 33°,

ATTEST,

Sovereign Grand Commander.

W. H. BALLARD, 33°,

Secretary-General H.: E .: .



ILLUSTRIOUS BROTHER

Frederick Webber, 33°,

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

--FOR--

THE SOUTHERN JURISDICTION OF U. S. A.



From the East of the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Dominion of Canada, whose See is in the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, near the B.*.B.*. and under the C.*.C.*. of that Zenith, which answers unto 45° 31' North Latitude, and 73° 20' West Longitude of the Meridian of Greenwich.

TO ALL FREEMASONS OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF THE OBEDIENCE OF THIS SUPREME COUNCIL:

My Dear Brethren:

In deep sorrow I announce to you the death of our Illustrious Prother FREDERICK WEBBER, 33°, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction U. S. A., and Honorary Member of this Supreme Council.

He passed away at his home in the City of Washington, at 8 o'clock on Monday evening, November 4th, surrounded by the members of his family and a few loving friends, and was buried in Louisville, Ky., November 8th, 1907.

He was born in Cork, Ireland, June 1st, 1827, and came to the United States and located in Louisville, Ky., when only sixteen years of age. He was made an Entered Apprentice Mason the day he was twenty-one years old, June 1st, 1848, in Antiquity Lodge, 113, at Louisville, and in due time was made a Master Mason in the same Lodge; was exalted to the Royal Arch degree in Louisville Chapter two years later; was created a Knight Templar in Louisville, February In August, 1852, he received the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, up to and including the 32° in Louisville, by communication by the Illustrious Brother MACKEY, 33°, then Secretary-General, and was crowned Sovereign Grand Inspector-General and Active Member of the Supreme Council in Charleston, S. C., on March 28th, 1859, by Grand Commander PIKE. He filled all the offices of his Lodge, serving as Master for seven years, and also filled several stations in his Chapter and Commandery; was Grand Registrar, and Grand Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Consistory of Kentucky. In 1871 he became Treasurer-General of the Supreme Council, and filled this position until 1886, when he became Secretary-General, which latter office he held until the date of his death. He was a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, and an Honorary Member of the Supreme Councils of Ireland, Belgium and Colon, and was the representative of these Supreme Councils near his own.

In 1886 Ill.: Bro.: Webber was appointed as our representative near the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction, and has given us nearly twenty-two years of efficient and faithful service. He was elected to Honorary Membership in this Council at the Annual Session, held in Montreal, in October, 1895, and his visit to our Supreme Council some years ago has always been remembered with genuine pleasure.

During his fourscore years he was always to his mighty host of friends the same generous, frank, simple, manly, open-minded, kind-hearted, unostentatious

FRED WEBBER, the loving husband, the affectionate father, and sincere friend. He lived his long life without harming anyone, and died, as I verily believe, without an enemy in the wide, wide world. The memory of him is imperishable in the minds of those of us he leaves behind.

To the grief-stricken widow, children and other members of his family, we tender our deepest and profoundest sympathies, and pray God to give them sweet comfort and consolation.

As a mark of respect to the memory of our departed brother the usual badge of mourning will be worn for a period of sixty days from the reading of this letter, and may our Father in Heaven have you always in His holy keeping.

Given under my hand and seal of Supreme Council this 17th day of March, 1908.

J. M. GIBSON, 33°,

Sovereign Grand Commander.

ATTEST,

W. H. BALLARD, 33°,

Secretary-General H.: E.:

Members of our Obedience whose Deaths are reported in the returns received up to the meeting of the Supreme Council.

John Bailey, 32°, Winnipeg. Walter H. Blight, 32°, Toronto. G. Gordon Boyne, 32°, St. John. Rev. Geo. Chrystal, 32°, Hamilton. William Dewar, 32°, London. Benjamin W. Greer, 32°, London. Eli Harrison, 32°, Victoria. Henry H. Henshaw, 32°, Montreal. Fred. C. Henshaw, 32°, Montreal. Rolland Hills, 32°, Toronto. Joshua T. Johnston, 32°, Toronto. John McBride, 2°, Winnipeg. Allan McLean, 32°, Kingston. Robert Muir, 32°, Winnipeg. William Thackray, 32°, Ottawa. Arthur J. Trueman, 32°, St. John. J. Connal White, 32°, Vancouver. J. Currie Smith, 30°, Barrie. Nelson W. Cleary, 18°, Ottawa. Edwin A. Dalley, 18°, Hamilton. Benjamin Edwards, 18°, Hamilton. W. F. Haskins, 18°, Hamilton. David Hoskin, 18°, Toronto. Thomas Hutchison, 18°, Toronto. Henry Lowndes, 18°, Toronto. Henry Morgan, 18°, Quebec. Rev. R. W. Norman, 18°, Quebec. J. F. W. Reid, 18°, Barrie. Thomas Robinson, 18°, Winnipeg. Albert H. White, 18°, London.



Members of our Obedience-Continued.

William H. Wills, 18°, London.
Geo. Stewart, 18°, Quebec.
S. C. Zimmerman, 18°, London.
Albert A. Boak, 14°, Vancouver.
Robert Cooper, 14°, Toronto.
John Hetherington, 14°, Toronto.
Corwin V. Howell, 14°, Brantford.
Fred. F. Manley, 14°, Toronto.
Stephen Pound, 14°, London.
Geo. M. Ryerson, 14°, Ottawa.
H. Harb Smith, 14°, Toronto.



Members of other Supreme Councils.

Allison Nailor

Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

Henry Clay Urner Gilbert W. Barnard Hugh McCurdy

Active Members of the Supreme Council for Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

Faustino Jorge (Secretary-General)

Jose Clementino Soto

Members of the Supreme Council for Argentina.

Octavio Rodriguez Perez

Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for Cuba.

Alejandro Aguilar Jose Leonard

Active Members of the Supreme Council for Central America.

Jose de la Paz Alvarez (Secretary-General)
Angel Quiros
Esteban Morales
Francisco de P. Gochicoa

Active Members of the Supreme Council for Mexico.

James Dalrymple Gray Dalrymple

Active Member of the Supreme Council for Scotland.

Jules Capre
Cesar Dupuis
Paul Chas. Stroehlin

Active Members of the Supreme Council for Switzerland.



TABLEAU

OF THE

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°

FOR THE

DOMINION OF CANADA

GRAND ORIENT, MONTREAL, PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.
1908-1909

OFFICERS

HON. JOHN MORISON GIBSON, K. C., LL.D., 33°, M.: P.: Sovereign Grand Commander.

WILLIAM HENRY THORNE, 33°, Lieutenant Grand Commander.

WILLIAM HENRY BALLARD, 33°, Secretary-General, H.: E.:

HUGH ALEXANDER MACKAY, 33°, Treasurer-General, H.: E.:

BENJAMIN TOOKE, 33°, Grand Chancellor.

ANGUS WILLIAM HOOPER, 33°, Grand Master of Ceremonies.

ENOCH BRUCE BUTTERWORTH, 33°, Grand Marshal.

CHARLES WELLS HAGAR, 33°, Grand Standard Bearer.

BENJAMIN ALLEN, 33°, Grand Captain of the Guard.

DEPUTIES

HON. WILLIAM GIBSON, 33°, Beamsville, for the Province of Ontario.

BENJAMIN TOOKE, 33°, Montreal, for the Province of Quebec.

JOHN DEWOLF CHIPMAN, 33°, St. Stephen, for the Province of New Brunswick.

ALEXANDER STEPHEN, 33°, Halifax, for the Province of Nova Scotia.

JOHN McKECHNIE, 33°, Winnipeg, for the Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

RODERICK MACNEILL, M. D., 33°, Charlottetown, for the Province of Prince Edward Island.

JOSEPH RICHARD SEYMOUR, 33°, Vancouver, Special Deputy for the Province of British Columbia.

EDWARD AINSLIE BRAITHWAITE, M. D., 32°, Special Deputy for the Province of Alberta.

SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS-GENERAL, 33°

ACTIVE MEMBERS.

HUGH ALEXANDER MACKAY, Berlin, Ontario.

HON. JAMES KIRKPATRICK KERR, K. C., Toronto, Ontario.

HON. JOHN VALENTINE ELLIS, LL.D., St. John, New Brunswick.

ISAAC HENRY STEARNS, Montreal, Quebec.

CHARLES NAPIER BELL, Winnipeg, Manitoba

HON. JOHN MORISON GIBSON, K. C., LL.D., Toronto, Ont.

ANGUS WILLIAM HOOPER, Montreal, Quebec.

WILLIAM HENRY THORNE, St. John, New Brunswick.

ENOCH BRUCE BUTTERWORTH, Ottawa, Ontario.

WILLIAM HENRY BALLARD, M. A., Hamilton, Ontario.

BENJAMIN TOOKE, Montreal, Quebec.

JOHN DEWOLFF CHIPMAN, St. Stephen, New Brunswick.

CHARLES WELLS HAGAR, Montreal, Quebec.

BENJAMIN ALLEN, Toronto, Ontario.

ELIAS TALBOT MALONE, K. C., Toronto, Ontario.

DANIEL FRASER MACWATT, Sarnia, Ontario.

ALEXANDER STEPHEN, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

JOHN McKECHNIE, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

RODERICK MACNEIL, M. D., Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

HON. WILLIAM GIBSON, Beamsville, Ontario.

WILLIAM GEORGE EAKINS, M. A., Toronto, Ontario,

SIDNEY ALBERT LUKE, Ottawa, Ontario.

PAST ACTIVE MEMBERS.

HON. JAMES DOMVILLE, Rothesay, New Brunswick.

HERBERT SWINFORD, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

HONORARY INSPECTORS-GENERAL, 33'.

GAVIN STEWART, Hamilton, Ontario.

SIR DANIEL HUNTER McMILLAN, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

ANDREW WILLIAM PORTE, Oakville, Ontario.

WILLIAM ROBERT WHITE, K. C., Pembroke, Ontario.

DONALD DARRACH, M. D., Kensington, Prince Edward Island.

THOMAS LEES, Hamilton, Ontario.

WILLIAM MARSHALL BLACK, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

JAMES GLANVILLE, Toronto, Ontario.

THOMAS A. MACLEAN, Hill Crest Mines, Alberta.

DUNCAN WENDELL McDERMID, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

FREDERICK JUSTUS HOWELL, Hamilton, Ontario.

JOSEPH RICHARD SEYMOUR, Vancouver, British Columbia.

JOHN ROSS ROBERTSON, Toronto, Ontario.

DONALD McPHIE, Hamilton, Ontario.

EDWIN JAMES EVERETT, St. John, New Brunswick.

AUGUSTUS TOPLADY FREED, Hamilton, Ontario.

ALEXANDER McDOUGALL, Montreal, Quebec.

CHARLES RAYNES, Montreal, Quebec.

WILLIAM HENRY WETHERBY, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

ALBERT EDWARD COOPER, London, Ontario.

ALFRED FREDERICK WEBSTER, Toronto, Ontario.

WILLIAM ALLEN YOUNG, London, Ontario.

T. HARRY WEBB, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

JOHN McKNIGHT, Toronto, Ontario.

JOHN ROBERTSON, Ottawa, Ontario.

ANDREW TANNOCH NEILL, Hamilton, Ontario.

THOMAS WALKER, M. D., St. John, New Brunswick.

JOSEPH ELWOOD MILLER, Vancouver, British Columbia.

HARRY HOLGATE WATSON, Vancouver, British Columbia.

AUBREY WHITE, Toronto, Ontario.

WILLIAM ALFRED KARN, Woodstock, Ontario.

ROBERT ALLEN THOMPSON, LL.D., Hamilton, Ontario.

JOHN THOMAS BLUNDELL PERSSE, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Members of Other Supreme Councils Honorary Members of this Supreme Council

HON. HENRY L. PALMER, LL.1)., 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

GEORGE OTIS TYLER, 33°, Active Member Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

HON. JAMES D. RICHARDSON, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

JAMES HODGE CODDING, 33°, Secretary-General Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

JAMES ISAAC BUCHANAN, 33°, Active Member Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

THE COMPTE GOBLET D'ALVIELLA, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander Supreme Council for Belgium.

JEAN MARIE RAYMOND, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander Supreme Council for France.

WILLIAM HOMAN, 33°, Active Member Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

Supreme Councils in amity with this Supreme Council.

COUNTRY.	SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER.	SECRETARY-GENERAL.	OFFICIAL ADDRESS OF SECGEN.
America, U. S. of, S. J. Hon. James D. Richardson. Argentine Republic Dr. Emilio Gouchon Compte Goblet d'Alviella Dr. Lauro Sodré Dr. Lauro Sodré Dr. Lauro Sodré Dr. Juan Padilla Dr. Juan Padilla Dr. Juan Padilla Dr. Juan Padilla Dr. Juan B. Mainero y Trucco Juan Republic Rafael Alardo Manuel S. Castellanos Rafael Alardo England and Wales, etc. Rt. Hon. the Earl of Dartrey Idris Bey Ragheb. Egypt Creece Creece Right Hon. Gerald FitzGibbc Right Hon. Gerald FitzGibbc Right Hon. Gerald FitzGibbc Right Hon. Gerald FitzGibbc	son. LL. D lla co nd Patron. artrey Gibbon.	Dr. Austin B. Chamberlin. James II. Codding Prof. Baldmar F. Dobranich A. De Paepe Dr. J. Frederico de Almeida Dr. John H. Arton Arturo Fco. Clement Fr. de P. Rodriguez J. Sgo. de Castro Guglielmo Sierra Fernand Fau N. P. Barbogly	Dr. Austin B. Chamberlin. 433 Third St., N.W., Washington, D.C. James H. Codding
Mexico. Paraguay. Cristian G. Heisecke. Col. Alejandro Rivera. Portugal. Scotland. Spain Switzerland. Uruguay. Venezuela. Dr. Massimo Crescentino.			Apartado Postal, 734, Mexico, D. F. Casilla de Correos, 293, Asuncion. Apartado, 987, Lima. Rua do Gremio Lusitano, 35, Lisbon. Freemasons'Hall,74QueenSt, Edinb'gh Pretil de los Consejos, 5, Madrid. Case Postale, 11583. Avenida de la Paz, 277, Montevideo. Apartado de Correos, 13, Caracas.

Grand Representatives.

THIS SUPREME COUNCIL. REPRESENTATIVE NEAR THIS SUPREME COUNCIL.	Isaac H. Stearns, Montreal, Que Hugh A. Mackay, Berlin, Ont Daniel F. Macwatt, Sarnia, Ont Hon. John M. Gibson, Hamilton, Ont Isaac H. Stearns, Montreal, Que Wm. H. Thorne, St. John, N. B Dr. R. MacNeill, Charlottetown.	Alex. Stephen, Halifax Angus W. Hooper, Montreal, Que.	. Hon. John V. Ellis, St. John, N. B.	Hon. James Domville, Rothesay, N. B. John D. Chipman, St. Stephen, N. B. Isaac H. Stearns, Montreal, Que. Wm. H. Ballard, Hamilton, Ont. Enoch B. Butterworth, Ottawa, Ont. Hon. John V. Ellis, St. John, N. B. Hon. James K. Kerr, Toronto, Ont. Benjamin Tooke, Montreal, Que. Hon. Wm. Gibson, Beamsville, Ont. Charles W. Hagar, Montreal, Que.
REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS SUPREME COUNCIL.	Ernest B. Hussey, Seattle	Aurelio MirandaAntonio Geraldina The Earl of Lathom	Albert Coutaud.	Chatte Flores mpaio tley rreira Nisbet
COUNTRY.	America, U. S. of, S. J. America, U. S. of, N. J. Argentine Republic. Belgium Brazil. Central America. Chili Columbia, U. S. of.	Colon, Cuba Dominican Republic England, Wales, etc		y. Ind.

Subordinate Bodies under the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Council. CONSISTORIES.

DATE OF MEETING.	Third Friday in Jan., April, June and Oct. At the call of the Commander-in-Chief. Fourth Friday in Jan., April, July and Oct. At the call of the Commander-in-Chief. Fourth Friday in Jan., April, June and Oct. At the call of the Commander-in-Chief.
No. Mem- bers.	
GRAND SECRETARY.	W. M. Logan, 32° G. W. Lovejoy, 32° Freeman W. Wisdom, 32° Thos. Mowbray, 32° Jas. A. Ovas, 32° J. W. Prescott, 32°
COMIN-CHIEF.	F. J. Howell, 33° Charles Raynes, 33° Geo. B. Hegan, 32° Jas. D. Ritchie, 32° J. R. Grant, 32° J. R. Grymour, 33°
WHERE SITUATED.	Moore
NAME.	Moore

CHAPTERS OF ROSE CROIX.

DATE OF MEETING.	Fourth Tuesday of each month. Third Monday of each month. Third Friday in January, March, May, July, September and November. First Wednesday in Jan., April, July and Oct. Third Tuesday in each Quarter. Fourth Monday, except June, July and Aug. At the call of the M.: W.: Sov.: First Monday in each month. Fourth Friday in Mar., June, Sept. and Dec. Scond Monday in each month. Third Friday in Jan., April, July and Oct. Third Friday in Jan., March, May and Nov. At the call of the M.: W.: Sov.: So At the call of the M.: W.: Sov.: Fourth Friday in Jan., April, July and Oct. At the call of the M.: W.: Sov.:
No. Mem- bers.	4 2 2 1 1
REGISTRAR.	Hamilton, Ont. J. T. Crawford, 32. London, J. L. Richmond, 32. Toronto, Kingston, W. D. Gordon, 32. Kingston, W. J. Hallett, 18. Ottawa, Montreal, Que Frank Charters, 32. John W. Blair, 32. Montreal, Que W. J. Fraser, 18. J. D. Sutherland, 18. K. John W. Blair, 32. W. J. Fraser, 18. J. D. Sutherland, 18. W. J. Fraser, 18. K. John W. Blair, 32. W. J. Fraser, 18. Charlottetown, P. E. I. H. Winfield, 32. W. M. Gordon, 32. Charlottetown, P. E. I. H. C. Macdonald, 18. Edmonton, Alta. Geo. T. Bragg, 32. A. B. Petrie, Jr., 30. A. B. Petrie, Jr., 30.
M.: W.: SOV.:	J. T. Crawford, 32° Thos. McCallum, 32° J. L. Richmond, 32° Jared Vining, 18° Lewis F. Riggs, 32° A. F. Webster, 33° W. D. Gordon, 32° Fred. Marr, 18° W. J. Hallett, 18° Fred. Marr, 18° John C. Scott, 32° Fred. Mair, 32° Frank Charters, 32° Fred. Wait, 32° J. Twining Hartt, 32° Freeman W. Wisdom, 18° J. H. Winfield, 32° Thos. Mowbray, 32° J. Scroggie, 32° W. M. Gordon, 32° Harry H. Watson, 33° Wm. Burns, 32° H. C. Macdonald, 18° W. S. Stewart, 18° Geo. T. Bragg, 32° A. B. Ferguson, 32° J. Orr Rose, 30° A. B. Petrie, Jr., 30°
WHERE SITEATED.	Hamilton, Ont. London, " Toronto, " Kingston, " Barrie, " Ottawa, " Ottawa, " Ouebec, " St. John, N. B. Halifax, N. S. Winnipeg, Man Vancouver, B. C Charlottetown, P. E. I. Edmonton, Alta. Guelph, Ont.
NAME.	Hamilton

LODGES OF PERFECTION.

NAME.	WHERE	WHERE SITUATED.	Т.: Р.: G.: М.:	GR.: SEC.:	No. Mem-bars.
]			
Murton London London Toronto Kingston Kingston Kingston Kingston Kingston Kingston Kingston Guelph Barrie Ottawa Ottawa Ottawa Montreal, Que Quebec St. John Victoria Winnipeg Winnipeg Winnipeg Wancouver Falmonton Edmonton Alta	Hamilton, Ont. London, " Toronto, " Kingston, " Guelph, " Barrie, " Ottawa, " Ottawa, " Ottebec, " St. Joan, N. B. Halifax, N. S. Winnipeg, Man. Vancouver, B. C. Charlottetown, P. E.		G. H. Levy, 32° Thos. Rowe, 32° R. W. Clewlo, 32° J. C. Ferguson, 18° J. C. Ferguson, 18° H. H. LeDrew, 18° H. E. Jory, 14° A. T. Greenfield, 18° A. E. Seifert, 18° A. E. Seifert, 18° E. J. C. Chambers, 14°. Thos. H. G. Strachan, 32° Andrew Chisholm, 32° W. W. Burke, 32° W. W. Gordon, 32° W. W. Burke, 32° W. W. Burke, 32° W. W. Rogers, 18° A. R. Duncan, 18° Cecil Sutherland, 18°	W. M. Logan, 32° J. Vining, 18°. J. G. Ferguson, 18° A. B. Petrie, Jr., 30° Fred. Marr, 18° F. G. Wait, 32° J. Hamilton Ferns, 18°. E. J. C. Chambers, 14°. Freeman W. Wisdom, 32° W. M. Gordon, 32° Wm. Burns, 32° Wm. Burns, 32° Ww. Eurns, 32° Wm. Burns, 32° Wm. Cecil Sutherland, 18°	First Tuesday in each month. Fourth Monday in each month. Fourth Monday in each month. First Friday, except July and August. Third Tuesday in each month. Frird Tuesday in each month. Second Monday, except July and Aug. At the call of the T.: P.: G.: M.: First Monday in each month. Fourth Friday in Feb., May, Aug. and Nov. Fourth Friday in each month. Second Friday in each month. Second Friday in each month. Jan., April, July and Oct. First Friday in each month.

Members of Subordinate Bodies August 31st, 1908

ONTARIO.

Moore Consistory, Hamilton.

S. G. I. G., 33°.

Mackay, H. A.
Kerr, Hon. J. K.
Stearns, I. H.
Gibson, Hon. J. M.
Butterworth, E. B.
Ballard, W. H.
Allen, B.

Malone, E. T.
MacWatt, D. F.
Gibson, Hon. Wm.
Eakins, W. G.
Luke, S. A.
Buchanan, James Isaac
Gay, Rev. Teofilo

HON. INSP.-GEN., 33°.

Stewart, Gavin
McMillan, Sir D. H.
Porte, A. W.
White, W. R.
Lees, Thos.
Glanville, Jas.
Howell, F. J.
Robertson, J. Ross
McPhie, D.
Freed, A. T.
Cooper, A. E.
Webster, A. F.

Young, W. A.
McKnight, Jno.
Robertson, John
Neill, A. T.
White, Aubrey
Karn, W. A.
Thompson, R. A.
Birrell, G. S.
Arnold, George
Hannan, Owen B.
Hazlett, John P.

S. P. R. S., 32.

Able, Norman
Aitchison, William John
Allan, George
Allan, T. P.
Argue, Thos. E.
Armstrong, John Alexander
Atkinson, Leamington
Bailey, Thos. David
Bain, Andrew Gibson
Baker, Alfred Henry
Barber, Henry Webster
Barnet, James Ed. Henry
Barlow, William Warren
Bastedo, John
Battisby, D.D., Rev. John R.
Beattie, Thomas
Bee, Andrew Shore
Bell, David
Belton, Geo. Harrison

Bennett, Burley W.
Bennett, George John
Bethune, John William
Bethune, Kenneth
Bicknell, James
Billings, John
Bingham, George Arthur
Birkett, Thomas
Blackburne, Francis
Bond, Hedleigh E.
Bothwell, John McDonald
Bowlby, Arthur
Bowlby, Russell
Bowman, William
Boyd, John
Boyd, Valentine
Breckenridge, Warren Cook
Brennan, Wm. C.
Brennen, Albert

Broomfield, Raymond Arthur Browne, Johnston D. H. Bruce, Ralph R. Brunton, Thomas Harold Burch, David Burley Burdon, M.D., Fred L. Burritt, William Edward Burritt, James Henry Callard, John Campbell, George Benj. Campbell, John. Wm. Campbell, Joseph Wm. Canfield, James
Carley, David Leonard
Carley, Geo. H.
Carse, Peter Davey Cartwright, Chas. W. Case, Edmund W. Chamberlain, A. F. Chamberlain, Hiram W. Chisholm, LL.B., James Clapp, Charles R. Clark, Angus McPherson Clark, Donald Clark, M.D., George F. Clark, George Clewlo, Robert William Coates, Robert Cochran, Charles Scriver Cockburn, Malcolm John
Collinson, M.A., John Henry
Conklin, Elias George
Conley, Charles Edward
Connor, C. H.
Corcoran, James Woods Corey, Bloss P. Counter, Moses R. Craig, Robert J. Crain, William Eldridge Crawford, M.A., John Thos. Dalley, Fenner F. Davey, Philip
Davis, Thomas George
Davis, Walter Hammill
Davis, William R. Davies, Arthur L. E. Davison, Samuel Dewar, David B. Dewar, John D. Dexter, David Dickson, M.A., George Dinnen, Norman J. K. Donovan, Ed. M. C. Doran, Joseph Orr Douglas, Samuel

Doust, Joseph Dowling, Richard Downey, Thomas Dransfield, Edwin Rankin Duncan, James Dunlop, John H. Eastwood, John Morison Eddis, Wilton Clement Edwards, Wm. A. Edwards, Russell, G. C. Evel, James Joseph Fenton, John Weston Ferguson, Donald Ferguson, John Drew Ferrah, William Andrew Finlay, Edward Flaherty, William LeRoy Forbes, George Duthie Forgie, John Graham Forsyth, Robert Ewan Foster, Samuel H. C. Francis, Jos. E. Franklin, William T. Fraser, William H. A. Gardner, Chas. Wm. Garland, James Gates, F. W. Gauld, John Gordon Gibson, John Gray Giles, Wm. Thos. Gillard, James Turner Galpin, Alfred L. Gordon, Robert William Greer, Abraham B. Griffin, M.D., Herbert Spohn Graham, Archibald D. Haentschel, Charles W. Haggart, Peter Hamilton, C. J. Harper, W. B. Harriman, James Harris, Charles L. M. Hendrie, Hon. John S. Heney, Frederick Augustus Henry, Michael Herald, Charles Alonzo Hermiston, Geo. M. Hewson, George H. Hickey, William R. Hill, David Hills, Frank Hillier, Riel Hobson, Robert Hohl, Christopher James Holcroft, H. S. Hoodless, John

Hooper, John Hoover, Addison H. Hope, Robert Knight Horwood, Edgar Lewis Howard, Wilson Shanley Howarth, Fred Hubert, Fred B. Hudson, Albert Hunt, Charles B. Hunter, Charles Alex. Huntoon, Josias Smith Hurdman, William George Hurrell, Alfred Brooking Husband, Thomas H. Hutchison, Robert A. Irwin, William Irwin, John Jackson, Jas. Wm. Jackson, John H.
Johnson, James
Josephs, George Edward Junor, Robert Junor, William Kappele, George Keays, James E. Kelly, M.D., Charles Israel Kennedy, Hugh Peter Kennedy, M.D., William Kerr, James King, Joseph King, Herman Samuel Klock, Robert Alexander Labatt, Charles Bagot Lamoreaux, James Wilmot Lancaster, David Henry Latshaw, Fred Aussem Lees, George Lees, George
Lehman, C.
Lennox, John
Lester, Thomas W.
Levy, Adolph Scheuer
Levy, Gabriel Herman
Levy, Joseph
Lewis, Thomas
Liddell, James Gordon
Lind, H. W.
Lloyd Griffith R Lloyd, Griffith R. Logan, M.A., Wm. McGregor Love, Spencer Lowndes, Charles B. Lyon, Napoleon Theodore Lyon, Walter H. Macartney, C. B. MacLaren, John Ferguson McBride, Herbert Carroll McCallum, Thomas

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Day, Richard Welsted
Douglas, Henry Ward Beecher
Duncan, Robert
Drewe, John
Falkins, Aslie Lodge
Garden, Joseph
Holden, Jas. Bismark

Hubbell, Charles Henry
lbbotson, William George
Macdonald, John Thomas
Macleod, James Murdoch
Mann, John
May, Charles
McDougall, John Alexander
Pennock, Brock
Puffer, William Franklin
Robie, Henry James
Sutherland, Cecil S. A.
Turnbull, Thos. McMurray
Wilson, William Ralph
Wright, William Frank

MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER ONLY.

Macdonald, George

Mackenzie, Duncan Stewart

MEMBERS OF THE LODGE ONLY.

S. G. I. G., 33°.

Mackay, Hugh A. Gibson, Hon. John M.

Ballard, Wm. H. McKechnie, John

S. P. R. S., 32°.

Dickson, Andrew Robert

S. P. R. C., 18°.

McFarland, John J.

G. E. P. S. M., 14°.

Agnew, Frederick Ross
Archibald, Seymour
Aunger, Alb. Edward
Bottrell, William J.
Bown, John Campbell Ferria
Bowden, Thos. Nicholson
Brett, Wm. Fred.
Burris, Wm. J.
Campbell, Robert Eldon
Carruthers, Norman Ephraim
Carstairs, Wm. Fred. Wallace
Collison, John
Cooper, Henry Hamilton
Condell, Wm. Newton
Cope, Eustace Herbert
English, Thomas Frederick
Fox, Ernest Adams
Griffiths, Thomas Henry
Haskell, Reuben Leslie
Hill, Harry Bruce

Jackson, John Ainslie
Jefferson, Robert
Johnson, Clifford Wilson
Latimer, William Henry
Lene, Wm. F. W.
McElroy, Verner
McLeod, Kenneth Archibald
Mackenzie, Kenneth Wellington
Morrow, Albert Alexander
Palmer, Creighton Ross
Powley, Alexander Bruce
Raymer, Emanuel
Ross, Wm. Edward
Sandeman, Harry Fraser
Scanlan, John Mathew
Somersall, Samuel Haughton
Telfer, Edgar Howard
Trauter, John Hastings
Wright, Henry Philip

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Supreme Council A. . . & A. . Scottish Rite for the Dominion of Canada.

ILLUSTRIOUS BRETHREN:

The Committee of the Supreme Council on Foreign Relations respectfully reports that there is nothing of very great importance in the matters which have come under its notice during the year, except the conditions in Italy. The Sovereign Grand Commander in his address, and the Committee of the Supreme Council in its report upon that address, have sufficiently covered the general subjects of any importance, and the few paragraphs which this Committee presents will not call for any immediate action.

SCOTLAND.

From the Annual Reporter of the Supreme Council for Scotland the information is obtained that there had been an exchange of correspondence between the Supreme Councils of Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales regarding the words used in the thirtieth degree, and that it was agreed that the information compiled by the Supreme Council of Ireland was practically correct, and that the words used in that degree may now be held as adopted.

"The Supreme Council having received confirmation of the information that a Rose Croix Chapter had been opened by the Constitution of the Netherlands at Bulawayo, Rhodesia, considered the matter, and decided in favor of the presence of bodies under that Constitution being recognized generally in South Africa." There may be some question among the Supreme Councils represented at, or parties to, the Brussels Conference of 1907, as to the recognition of bodies of the Rite not holding of a Supreme Council. Of the legitimacy of the Rose Croix Chapters instituted under the Netherlands authority there cannot be a doubt, and yet the action taken at Brussels seems to indicate that bodies of the Rite only are recognized which hold from a Supreme Council. This, however, may be an extreme view of the matter.

The Supreme Council resolved that it would not be in the interests of the Rite to issue a warrant which had been applied for for a Rose Croix Chapter at Georgetown, nor for a Chapter in New Zealand.

The Supreme Council also declined to recognize a body in New Zealand claiming to be a Supreme Council. It was unacquainted with any of the bodies mentioned by this alleged New Zealand organization, "and none of these are recognized by any Supreme Council with which this Supreme Council is in amity."

The statement is made that "the proceedings of the Supreme Council of Canada, with a list of the bodies with whom it is in amity, and a similar list from that of the Southern Jurisdiction of the U.S. A., were received with thanks."

A resolution was adopted that it be a general rule that the thirtieth degree shall not be conferred on any Companion until seven years shall have elapsed from the date of his being made a Master Mason, except by special dispensation.

A vacancy in the membership of the Supreme Council, caused by the death of Ill.: Bro.: James Dalrymple Gray Dalrymple, was filled by the election of James Maxtone Graham. By the death of Bro. Dalrymple the Supreme Council lost a valued member, one justly held by it in very high esteem. The minute is made that the members "will greatly miss his sound judgment and wide experience, which had distinguished him in every branch of Freemasonry, while his invariable courtesy and genial disposition had endeared him to all with whom he was in contact." Many kind letters of sympathy had been sent to the Supreme Council on their brother's death. Two other members of the thirty-third degree on the Scottish registry had died during the Masonic year, viz.: John Saunders and Rt. Hon. Lord Blythswood.

This minute of the Proceedings may be of general interest: "Having taken into consideration the present attitude as regards Masonry adopted by the Supreme Council of Venezuela, the Council resolved that that Council be not recognized by it, and to depart from the proposals made by it for an exchange of representatives."

The fact can be easily gathered from these records, and from the reports submitted by the different Inspectors-General of divisions at home and in the dependencies of the empire, that good conditions prevail in the bodies of the Scottish Rite, under the authority of the Supreme Council of Scotland, and that the past year has been one of much prosperity.

CONFERENCE OF SUPREME COUNCILS.

The Conference of Supreme Councils of the United Kingdom was held May 14th, 1908, at Ed nburgh, and was presided over by the EARL OF KINTORE, Sovereign Grand Commander of Scotland; five Illustrious brethren of the Scottish Council were present; two of the English Council and two of that of Ireland, including the EARL Of DARTREY, Sovereign Grand Commander of England, and Ill.. Bro.: FLETCHER MOORE, Grand Secretary for Ireland. There was laid upon the table a report of the Conference of 1907 at Brussels. The Conference considered the positions of the Supreme Councils for Egypt and Greece," but no action was taken "for the present." A number of other matters were discussed, but there is no action recorded. The visitors were cordially entertained at dinner by the Supreme Council for Scotland, and they saw the thirtieth degree, as worked by the Edinburgh Consistory. The Conference of 1909 will be held in Dublin on 16th May next.

SUPREME COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The "Red Book" of this Supreme Council affords ample evidence of the progress of the Rite under its jurisdiction. There are now upon its roll 161 Chapters of Rose Croix, almost all of which are in active operation. The EARL OF DARTREY is Sovereign Grand Commander, the EARL OF LATHOM (our representative at the English Council) is Lieutenant Grand Commander. other active members are: FRANK RICHARDSON, Treasurer-General; the VERY REV. JOHN STUDHOLME BROWNRIGG, Grand Chaplain; JAMES HENRY MATTHEWS, Grand Chamberlain; RICHARD LOVELAND, Grand Chancellor; SIR BRUCE MAXWELL SETON, Grand Captain General; RALPH CLUTTON, Grand Marshal, and JOHN CHARLES FITZROY TOWER, Grand Secretary-General. The Supreme Council is still limited to nine active members, but there is quite a roll of Illustrious Brothers in possession of the thirty-third degree, not active members—at least thirty in all, not including inspectors of The Supreme Council controls all a missions to the thirdivisions abroad. tieth, thirty-first and thirty-second degrees. As regards the thirtieth there is a limitation, as the rule is that no Prince Rose Croix is eligible to receive the thirtieth degree unless he be a Present or Past M. W. S., and has been three years a member of the 18th degree, except by special dispensation. not a l mit of numbers for the thirtieth degree, but the thirty-first is limited to 99 members and the thirty-second to 54 members, exclusive of those promoted "for service in the colonies or res ding abroad." The fee for the thirtieth degree is fifteen guineas, and the same is fixed for the thirty-first and the same for the thirty-second. For the thirty-third degree the fee is ten guineas. The rules give the idea that the A.: & A.. Rite in England is a well managed body, and this is borne out by the general conditions which prevail. The Supreme Council is a liberal contributor to the Masonic and general charities of the mother country. There is a concordat between the three Supreme Councils of the United Kingdom to this effect: "A brother having sworn allegiance to either Supreme Council shall not receive any other degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite from any other Masonic boly without the permission of the Supreme Council to which he has originally given such allegiance." The English Council has taken action in regard to the Supreme Council of Venezuela similar to that referred to above as taken by Scotland. The ground for this action is the alleged departure of the Venezuelan Council from the true teachings of Freemasonry. The latter Council emphatically denies that there is justification for the charge made against it.

GREECE.

As regards the Supreme Council for Greece the observation may be made that the Supreme Council over which Ill.: Brother GALANIS presides was recognized at the Conference held in Brussels in 1907, and is the Supreme Council for that Kingdom with which the Supreme Council for Canada is in amity. On the 2nd August, 1908, it elected its office-bearers for a term of nine years, extending from 1st August (O. S.) 1908, to 31st July, 1917, except that Ill.: Bro.: GALANIS i. Sovereign Grand Commander for life. The Grand Chancellor (Secretary-General) is Ill.: J. S. E. CEPHELAS. There are three

Sovereign Chapters Rose Croix, a Council of K—h, and a Consistory of Sovereign Princes under the authority of the Supreme Council. There is a treaty of amity between this body and the Serene Grand Orient of Greece, founded in 1868, which has under its authority twelve symbolic lodges. Of this Grand Orient Ill.: Bro.: CEPHELAS is also Grand Secretary.

ITALY.

An unfortunate difference of opinion between bodies of the Italian Freemasonry has resulted in conditions among the fraternity in that country which are greatly to be deplored. It is no easy matter to state briefly, and, at the same time, clearly and with absolute fairness to both sides in the unhappy quarrel, all the causes which have brought about a separation between illustrious brethren who have worked together hitherto with much harmony, not only for the general interests of the fraternity, but for the general interests of the Italian nationality. When it is said that there was much harmony it is well to remember that at the same time there were two controlling powers in the Italian Freemasonry. First, the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite having various subordinate bodies, itself an organization descended from, or created from, or brought into existence by, Suupreme Councils with sees in other important centres in the Italian kingdom than Rome. These bodies had subject to them many subordinates, and by various acts and proceedings these Supreme Councils became unified into the Supreme Council at Rome, at whose head, until quite recently, was Illustrious Brother BALLORI, and to which all of the bodies using the ritual of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite gave their adherence. This does not refer merely to what are called bodies of the Superior degrees, but also to bodies of what we would call in America Craft Masons or Blue Masons. Secondly, there were under the control of Grand Lodges, or, in some cases, independently existing, or semi-independently existing Lodges, which were eventually grouped into or under a Grand Symbolic Lodge of the Italian Rite. Thus there were practically existing two systems or authorities in Italy, and as the powers of these two bodies were not always well defined, in their relation to each other, there were many contentions. The leading Italian Masons for the last thirty years or more have been endeavoring to overcome the difficulties which thus existed. The following extracts from a memorandum issued by Bro. BALLORI and his adherents set forth a statement from his point of view intended to justify his course in connection with the existing unfortunate troubles:

"For a long time the A.: & A.: Scottish Rite and the Symbolic Rite have been professed in the bosom of Italian Freemasonry. In order to prevent the two Rites, in their headquarters, constituting two separate and rival authorities, the General Assembly of 1874 decreed that the Grand Orient of Italy should govern the lodges of the two Rites, while leaving to the Supreme Council of the 33° for the Scottish Rite and to the Grand Lodge for the Symbolic Rite the power to direct the bodies of their respective ritualistic hierarchies. To this end they formulated a constitution, which the Assembly of Venerables (Masters) are to renew every six years. This constitution can come into force as law only in case it is accepted by an act drawn up and certified to by the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third degree and the Grand Lodge of the Symbolic Rite. Thus it is

that in virtue of the provisions of article VI. of the Grand Constitution of 1786, all the Lodges of the Scottish Rite are governed by the Grand Orient and by the Grand Master, whilst the Supreme Council of the 33rd degree on one side and the Grand Lodge of the Symbolic Rite on the other exercise their sovereign and independent authority over all the superior bodies of the Rite."

Now the Canadian Mason will very likely regard this system—when compared with the Masonic system of government to which he is accustomed—very cumbersome, but it is well to remember that it was a great advance upon the disputed system of authority which prevailed before it was called into being, and was gradually becoming more and more efficient. "Following this system," we are told, "Italian Freemasonry lived peacefully and prospered, increasing its numbers and benign influence over the outside world. The A.: & A.: Scottish Rite had, and always preserved, a great preponderance, for it is professed by five-sixths of the Italian Freemasonry—one-sixth following the Italian Rite."

Notwithstanding the excellent condition just stated there was still unpleasant emulation between the two Rites, which "changed into inopportune and dangerous rivalry," and the Assembly of 1906, at which apparently all the Lodges—Scottish and Symbolic—would be represented, expressed the wish to have the whole matter of this inopportune and dangerous rivalry investigated "and see if the two Rites might not be fused and unified." The Grand Master supported the idea, and a commission was appointed to prepare a scheme or a formula of union. Such a scheme was prepared and was presented "to the Supreme Ritual authorities."

BRO. BALLORI, as Sovereign Grand Commander, "and almost all of the dignitaries of the Supreme Council" declared themselves at once opposed to the union upon the terms presented, and, indeed, apparently upon union in any form, "since they thought that it could be effected only by interfering either with the spirit itself or with the characteristic forms of the A. . & A. . Rite; only they sought for a suitable way of rejecting it." All of this led to a condition of things which seems to have affected the temper, minds and judgment of the illustrious brethren, arousing their sensibilities, awakening distrusts and inflaming feeling, and finally precipitating action which led to disruption, just as whole communities become irritated and agitated, nervous and excited over questions that deeply affect their conditions.

But this was not the sole cause, apparently, of the division which followed. It was a pre-disposing current towards the sea of trouble which swept in upon the Italian fraternity. What is meant here may be inferred from the following paragraphs in the memorandum sent out by adherents of Ill.: Bro.: BALLORI.

"A long time ago—to be exact, since the constitution of the family in 1861, at Turin—the Italian Masonic people, struggling in the whirl of clericalism, gave notice of the necessity of defending and consolidating the work of the National Deliverance, while assuring against all temptation to reaction against the liberties won and the progressive development of the country. In consequence they wished to follow, and, in fact, did follow the direction suggested by a sound

and well ordered democracy, which was really the moving spirit of the political changes to which we are indebted for the deliverance of the country. For this reason they claimed absolutely that every Freemason accepting a public office, whatever it might be, should stand firm by his Masonic principles, voluntarily accepted and sworn to in the Lodge rooms of the Order."

"That this inspiring principle of action of the Order, and that this duty of all the brethren might be clearly affirmed, the Constituent Assembly of 1906 resolved that the first article of the Constitution which constitutes the federal pact between the two Rites, and the fundamental basis of the Grand Orient of Italy, and which affirms that Freemasonry has for its object the moral, intellectual and material perfecting of the human family, contains also the judgment that the Italian communion supports the democratic principle in the political and social Order, without in any way departing from the proposed and professed objects of the World Order."

We are told that the older brethren and those with the greatest authority, deemed that this declaration was superfluous, "because Italian Freemasonry had always professed these principles and followed this program of action," but the majority carried the day.

Let it be here said that these declarations and professions and statements of principles of action are unknown to the Freemasonry of this continent—to the portion, at least, in which English speech prevails. It is easy to understand from the foregoing statements that the differences of feeling in the matter of the Rites and the difference of opinion as to the extent to which the principles above declared should be applied, would, in the end, lead to trouble, and they have done so. In the lengthy statements which have been sent us and which your committee has faithfully tried to examine and to understand, there are statements concerning the resignation of this or that responsible brother, and the particular action of some other brother or brothers; there are suggestions as to the motives for the steps of prominent and responsible brothers along the lines which eventually led to disorder and disorganization. At the present time your Committee must regard all of the described actions and movements as actions and movements natural to a condition of disorder. It might be very easy to severely criticize a prominent Masonic leader in Italy for having taken this particular line of action, and to condemn some other eminent brother for having taken another line, or to approve of the policy of another. But to pass judgment correctly and wisely would be no easy task; indeed, it might be an impossible task; for one who would undertake to do so should have a very clear and well defined conception of what Italian Freemasonry is, and to what extent its teachings influence the action of its adherents. Your Committee has not that knowledge, in the clear and definite form which it thinks necessary to enable it to decide between the two parties. The documents which have been examined show that men of eminence in the Kingdom of Italy, men who have been for many years working harmoniously together, are somewhat suddenly separated and are now opposing each other with vehemence. These are men who have been called to important offices and have had imposed upon them great responsibilities, and they have won the approval of eminent members of the Masonic institution in other lands. In this connection your Committee present the observations made by the Illustrious Brother COUNT GOBLET D'ALVIELLA, who so ably presided over the Brussels Conference of 1907. In welcoming the delegates to that Conference, the Illustrious Grand Commander of Belgium said in respect of the Scottish Rite in Italy and its Sovereign Grand Commander:

"What shall I say now to the Illustrious Representatives of the Supreme Council for Italy, over which still lingers the great shadow of her former Sovereign Grand Commander, so well known to the world as the liberator of his country, Guiseppe Garibaldi. I am sorry I cannot receive this evening his present successor, Most Pot.: Bro. A. Ballori; but I know that his ideas will be well interpreted by his distinguished deputies. The Supreme Council of Italy, and one may add, the whole Italian Freemasonry, have to contend against the same impediments, the same foes, and also against the same inevitable impulses as the Belgium Freemasonry. It has, therefore, a special claim on the sympathy, not only of the Supreme Council of Belgium, but also of all those who understand the difficulties besetting Masonic Bodies of the vanguard, and who appreciate their efforts to maintain, even in the middle of the struggle for their life, the integrities of the principles of our Order and of our Rite."

Perhaps, in the spirit of these observations, we may interpret the difficulties upon which the Freemasonry of Italy has fallen, and regard with feelings of moderation, the conduct of those whose course has led to dissension and disunion. We deplore the circumstances which have made Italian Freemasonry active, even indirectly, in the political arena, for that must necessarily end in We cannot uphold in the Freemasonry of other lands that which we would not tolerate in our own, and it is almost impossible for your Committee to see how the Supreme Council for Canada can take sides in a dispute which originates in and is developed through causes which are entirely foreign to the teachings of our fraternity as understood by us. It is not a difficult thing to say that Ill.: Bro.: BALLORI, having resigned his position as Sovereign Grand Commander, is naturally succeeded by Ill.: Bro.: FERA, who was Lieutenant Grand Commander, and that the first named Illustrious Brother having retired from office, his successor is properly in his place. But this is merely on the fringe of a great question. Illustrious Brother BALLORI claims still to be at the head of a large and an influential and an active section of the Italian craft. He signs himself Sovereign Grand Commander, and he presides over a Supreme Council, which he claims is the regular and legitimate continuation of the one with which we have been for a long time on terms of amity; claiming also that it is in perfect accord with the Grand Lodge of the Symbolic Rite and with the Grand Orient of Italy, and that it will continue to welcome into the family, without making any distinction of political parties, all honest, free men of good morals, provided they are opposed "to clericalism, even modernized clericalism and reaction, whatever may be it's mask," using the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe as we do, and "working constantly for the elevation of the spirit and fraternizing of men in love and justice." The Sovereign Grand Commander of

the Supreme Council of Canada may recognize in the crisis which has occurred in Italian Freemasonry an event which, in the end, will have a good influence upon the craft in Italy, and an advance step in the direction of freeing it from political affiliation or association, or he may not; but, in the judgment of your Committee he would be justified, in view of his more intimate acquaintance with the whole subject than he could possibly have had when his address was prepared for the meeting of our Supreme Council, if he were to take no action at the present time, and simply to allow our relations with Italy to remain in abeyance, pending the settlement by the authorities of the craft in that country of the unfortunate differences which have arisen, and the cessation of the political propagandism which, unhappily, seems to have such an important place in the doings of the Italian fraternity-to abstain from taking sides in this quarrel, and to calmly await results, in the hope that there may grow out of this conflict the dawn of a more satisfactory day, so that Italian Freemasonry, when freed from the struggles in which it is involved, and clear of the storms by which it is buffeted, may effectively do its work in developing the spirit of philanthropy, not only for the national glory, but for the well-being of humanity.

While making these observations, your Committee feel it their duty to remark that they are much impressed by the observations and statements made in the circulars issued by Ill.: Bro.: SAVERIO FERA, who was Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Italy, formerly recognized by our Supreme Council, and who is practically at the head of the separatist move-Brother FERA declares for and upholds the idea of what may be spoken of as the independence of the Scottish Rite. But he was in the Supreme Council, while the Lodges of the Scottish Rite, under the ritualistic authority of the Council were under the general control of the Grand Orient, and were, practically, with the Lodges of the Italian Rite, under the one administrative government, that of the Grand Orient. Under our system we do not establish Scottish Rite Lodges of the first three degrees, but in Italy the Supreme Council does; and, doing so, to permit its Lodges to pass under the legislative control of another government seems to be a surrender of rights, which makes it no easy matter to stand up in general defence of all the rights of the Supreme Council. Much that Ill.: Bro.: FERA says appeals strongly to the feelings of your Committee, but when he put forth his statement much mischief was already done, and to that the present evil hour largely owes its existence. Brother FERA has declared the separation of the Scottish Rite from the Grand Orient of Italy, and if that call is generally responded to by the Scottish Rite Lodges good will result, but the Grand Orient is to a large extent the Scottish Rite. There are, it appears, 301 Lodges on the roll of the Grand Orient, and of that number 266 are in Italy; the remainder are in Turkey, Macedonia and other places, and Of the whole number, 251 belong to the Scottish Rite twelve are in America. and 50 to the Italian Symbolic Rite. The Scottish Rite must be the controlling force in the Grand Orient of Italy. The whole question—as we have said before -is largely affected by national political conditions, upon which we cannot satisfactorily enter.

Since penning the foregoing remarks a carefully prepared memorandum has been received from Ill.. Bro.. Fera, purporting to set forth an accurate chronicle of the events immediately leading up to the present difficulties. It is not easy to extract from this document what might be considered the most vital or salient points which it claims to establish; it is therefore thought desirable to set forth the memorandum in full. In view of this decision the following further extracts from the statement of Ill.. Bro.: Ballori are given, so that those desiring to thoroughly understand the Italian situation may be able to do so by carefully perusing the material submitted from both sides:

Brother Achille Ballori and the other dignitaries having resigned, Bro. Saverio Fera and his friends took possession of the government of the Rite. But they found themselves confronted with an accusation drawn up by the Grand Orator of the Grand Orient, as the result of protests and denunciations from numerous Lodges against brother deputies who, on the occasion of a discussion in the session of a motion opposed to religious instruction, had not affirmed by their votes the principle of the lay school.

In the reunions of the Lodges, in the Masonic Congresses, in the General Assemblies, Freemasonry had laid down for a long time principles which always had the unanimous sanction of all Masonic opinions; among these was the absolute lay character of public instruction. The brethren were all obliged to affirm this principle whatever the place and whatever the means in their power, not being free to subordinate their conscience and their duty to considerations of propriety, opportunity and political parties. Since there was in the business of the Session a motion rightly tending towards making the schools lay in their character, there was no doubt that the Masonic Deputies ought to support it in their speeches and by their votes. All the more so since the Grand Master had definitely called their attention to this duty. But there were brethren who did not fulfil it. The Lodges rose in protest at once, and if we consider the pledges freely given by all Freemasons and the exhortations of the Grand Master, the protests and charges are explained in their justification.

But were the Brethren accused really guilty? That is what we can neither affirm nor deny. That is what competent Masonic Tribunals should have decided, tribunals who certainly would have weighed equitably and fraternally the respective personal responsibilities in relation to the preceding conduct of the accused, to their pledges and the parliamentary and political surroundings in which they were acting. The trial and the judgment were inevitable; the honor and the peace of the Order were seriously involved.

It appears that Brother Fera and his friends anticipate this necessity, and in fact they call the Supreme Council in "Jurisdictional Session," according to their own expression, that is to say, excluding from the reunion the associate members who, in virtue of Article No. 58 of the General Regulations which had scarcely been approved after being commended by Bro. Fera himself, have the right to be present and take part in the voting at all the reunions of the Supreme Council. By this open violation of our fundamental law, a great number of our active members did not appear at a reunion which they considered irregular. The few present, without authorizing the trial, announced that the accused Brethren had exercised one of the incontestable rights, and that they were worthy of praise, not blame.

Having been announced to all the Lodges and to all the Superior Chambers of the Rite, and communicated to the outside press, this resolution enlarged and strengthened the movement of protest in the whole Masonic family, who accused the directors of the Supreme Council with having shown themselves partisans, with having taken part in a rescue, with having failed in their belief and having trampled under foot the laws and proprieties of the Order.

It was then that the struggle became intense between the Brethren, the Lodges, the Ritual Bodies, on one side, and Bro. Fera and his friends on the other, who, one fact following another, preached doctrines and principles which a Congress of Supreme Councils would have scarcely dared to proclaim.

In order to accentuate the separation between the Supreme Council and the Grand Orient, between the Superior Chambers and the Lodges, and render inevitable a dissolution, they ordered that no Brother of a (standing) degree above 30 could be "Venerable" of a Lodge, thus violating the cardinal principles of Articles 277 and 519 of the General Statutes of the Rite. Furthermore they imposed upon all Lodges an oath of fidelity to the Supreme Council, forgetting that the Lodges are governed only by the Grand Orient, and that, after all, they had already sworn obedience to the legitimate authorities, according to the form established by Article 34 of the existing Constitution. These categorical and peremptory orders, this affirmation of principles which altered the programme constantly followed by Italian Freemasonry, this manifest violation of the irrevocable decrees of the Statutes, this lack of respect for the fidelity and dignity of the Lodges, aroused the most profound indignation in all the Masonic people. Requests and protests poured in from every side; everybody protested that this situation should come to an end in the vital interest of the Rite and of the Order.

Brother Saverio Fera, almost the day before the reunion of the Supreme Council of the 33°, by his decree sent to all the Communion, suspended a large number of the Brethren who had signed the request in question; he suspended, besides, Areopagi and Chapters, and he asked the Grand Master to suspend a great number of Lodges "guilty of rebellion."

The same measure of suspension was passed on a great number of Brethren of a lower degree, on two of the Areopagi, on 9 Chapters and 11 Lodges.

These measures of extreme severity, unjustified and unjustifiable, communicated by circular letter, exasperated the minds to the highest degree, and provoked the revolt of the whole communion.

On the question of the Associate Members, who had not been convoked because, according to the declarations of Bro. Fera, the old members were out of office and the new ones were not yet appointed, Brothers Ballori, Ferrari and Nathan maintained the point of law, accepted by all deliberative Bodies, that the retiring members lay down their office really only when their successors have been appointed and installed, and that according to Article 56 of the General Rules of the Rite which they cited. With regard to the active members, they maintained the illegality of the suspension, because an active member of the Supreme Council can be suspended only by the same Supreme Council which appointed him, as it conferred on him dignity, authority and office during his life; and because not even the Sovereign Grand Commander has power to suspend the Brethen of the 33°. In fact, Art. 112 of the Rules of the Rites, while giving to him power to suspend the Brethren of a superior degree, does not consent to the suspending of the Brethren of the highest (Supreme) degree. If he had that power, no one could prevent him from suspending all the Supreme Council of the 33°. Since the Sovereign Grand Commander has not this right, certainly it cannot be attributed to him by the Lieutenant, who, according to Art. 117 of the Rules, is only the secret adviser of the Sovereign Grand Commander, "whom he may replace in case of absence or inability to attend." Now, in the concrete case, the Sov. Grand Commander was neither absent nor prevented from attending; he did not exist. Consequently, the Lieutenant could only conduct the ordinary affairs of the administration, and he should have convoked the Supreme Council in order that they might provide for the election as soon as possible.

On account of these considerations, the Very Worthy Brethren requested that the suspensions be revoked, and that the Active Members waiting in the halls be allowed to enter the Temple with the Associate Members who, in spite of the fact that they were not convoked, had presented themselves at the reunion in

vrtue of the right granted by Art. 48 of the General Rules, which decrees that "the ordinary reunions take place on the 21st of March, the 24th of June, the 20th of September and on the 27th of December of each year at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, without need of convocation or individual notice"

Brother Fera did not wish to decide anything; they suggested to him to agree with his Dignitaries to a suspension of the session till 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and to open it again at that hour in order to announce his final

decision.

Brother Fera consented, and while accepting the proposal for this short postponement, the Supreme Council decided "itself formally" to postpone the session and to "meet again at 4 o'clock in the afternoon."

But at the hour fixed neither Brother Saverio Fera nor any of the Grand

Dignitaries appeared.

The members of the Supreme Council, who were waiting in the halls, sent to him a commission which deplored the delay, and requested him to be present at 9 o'clock in the evening, cost what it might. He did not appear, but sent to the Chancellor of the Supreme Council a letter on a common sheet of paper without any courtesies, in which it was stated that the reunion had been postponed indefinitely. In view of this action suspending a reunion "ordinary, obligatory and non-prorogable," and violating thus the inalienable rights of the Supreme Body and its sovereign decisions, the members of the Supreme Council decided unanimously to continue the session temporarily suspended which had been called for a fixed time. They continued it, there being present more than nine Brethren of the 33° who had the right to act as installing officers in the Supreme Council, with Sov. Grand Commander Achille Ballori as the presiding officer.

The Supreme Council revoked at once the suspensions passed on the Brethren of the 33°; it admitted the active members who had been suspended, the associate members, and it elected, with but one dissenting voice, Grand Commander Bro. Achille Ballori, who was immediately installed. The Supreme Council revoked also the suspensions, decreed by Bro. Fera, of the Chambers,

the Lodges and the Brethren.

The memorandum received from Ill. Bro. FERA is as follows:

INTRODUCTION.

In order to understand what follows, it is necessary to remember that the A. and A. Scotch Rite in Italy, up to June 24-25 last was allied with the Italian

Symbolic Rite.

This alliance, which was brought about under the pretext of having in Italy "freedom of Rite, but unity of government" soon became for the first 3 degrees of the two Rites a veritable union, of which unfortunately it was always the Scotch Rite, which had to pay the cost. This alliance of the two Lodges of the Rites has been administered (in virtue of a delegation from the S. Council) by a Body, called the Gr. Orient, presided over by a Grand Master, elected by a general Assembly of the Lodges, who might consequently belong to either one or other of the two Rites, provided only that he was a Master Mason of the 3 degree and of three years standing.

It was established that the two Rites should follow their own statutes, but for the government of the Lodges accept the "Constitutions of the Gr. Orient."

These constitutions which (according to the general Statutes of our Rite, Art. 541) were never to be laws, but only regulations for the administration of the laws, little by little, were erected into law for the Italian Communion, to the point of claiming for them authority to establish and modify the very principles of the Rites themselves (see Art. 1 of the said Constitutions and attached Document N. 1), and of maintaining that Masonic sovereignty resides in the whole body of Masons forming the Communion, and is exercised, for the government of the first three degrees, by the Assemblies, ordinary or extraordinary, composed of repre-

sentatives of all the Lodges of the Rites. Now Brethren holding high degrees found themselves subjected, alike with those of the three first degrees, to this government, in that the same Constitutions required all Masons, even brethren of the 33°, members of the Sup. Council, to be members at the same time of a Lodge.

One can easily understand that in this state of things schisms and divisions have been produced, owing to the invasion of the Gr. Orient, which in fact was of a character more Symbolic than Scotch, and which has finished by placing itself above our Rite and above the Sup. Council, paralyzing completely the action of the Sup. Council and of the higher chapters of the Rite, and setting itself up as the Supreme Authority, and its Gr. Master as the chief Sovereign of all Italian Masonry.

One can understand that our Rite found itself in Italy muffled up in the "Tunic of Nessus" which hindered its full and free development, placed as it was at one and the same time under:

1st. The Constitutions of the Gr. Orient, subject to modification every 6 years interpreted by the Gr. Orient and imposed on all Masons of all degrees;

2nd. The General Statutes of the Scotch Rite of 1820 (Naples), in which the Gr. Orient was permitted to introduce interpolations or effect changes;

3rd. The General Rules of the higher chapters of the Rite, which every 8, 9, or 10 years, in order to live, must modify themselves, and setitheir sails according to the wind which blew in the Gr. Orient and in its general Assemblies;

4th. The Ritnals of the different degrees, modified sensibly to please the Symbolic Rite; but neglected even then, so much so as to create a multitude of Masons absolutely ignorant of our principles, our symbols and their meaning;

5th. And in short the Grand Constitutions of 1786, which while acknowledged by the General Rules, etc., as the constitutional base of our Rite, have been as a plain matter of fact entirely forgotten and ignored—a veritable "dead letter"!

One can understand that the schisms have been latent for long; but the magnates of the Gr. Orient, succeeding in infiltrating themselves in the Sup. Council and having there a high hand, counted on the power of the Masonic mass, wholly ignorant of our Rite, to immolate the Scotch Rite in Italy on the altar of the Symbolic Rite.

Having said this, let us pass to the recent events, precise and proved by documents, which ended in the actual crisis—from Feb. 23 to June 24-25 of the present year.

I. EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1908.

On this date the Sup. Council was composed as follows:

Sov. Gr. Comm. Achille Ballori.

Lieut. Sov. Gr. C. vacant since the death of Br. Lemmi (May 23rd, 1906), the Lieut. Gr. C. Ballori having taken charge without himself nominating or seeing that one was nominated to this office.

Gr. Min. of State, G. Camera.

Gr. Sec. Chan., A. Costanza.

Gr. Treasurer, L. Ricciardi.

Gr. Keeper of the Seals, E. Paterno di Sessa.

Gr. Mas. of Ceremonies, Ul. Bacci. Gr. Capt. of the Guard, A. Aleggiani. Gr. Standard Bearer, R. Bentivegna.

Effective members of the S. C.—C. Finocchiaro Aprile (1877), Cesare Pastore (1877), B. Pandolfi (1877), J. Gay (1877), A. Costanzo (1877), G. Sani (1889), R. Malato-Calvino (1889), U. Bacci (1889) Panunzi (1889), S. Fera (1889), E. Paterno (1891), Ricciardi (1892), E. Ferrari (1893), R. B. Donzi (1898), G. Camera (1899), E. Fano (1899) G. Miranda (1900), D. Carbone (1900), C.

Gamba (1900), C. Peretti (1900), Chiarini (1900), Filippini (1901), Pegna (1901), Cassuto (1901), Prina (1902), Bentivegna (1903), Aleggiani (1903).

Several Members Aggregati were also present at the Sup. Council, but their position was much contested, as for some there existed no trace of their nomination or of their aggregation, while for others the 3 years for which they had been elected had expired long ago, and they had not been re-elected.

The Sov. Gr. Comm. on his own initiative had postponed the Ordinary meeting of the Sup. Council, which should have been held on Dec. 27th, 1907.

At length, on Feb. 8th, 1908, the Sup. Council was convoked for an Extraordinary meeting to be held on Feb. 23rd, with the following order of business:

1. Communications; 2. Project for the unification of the Rites; 3. Nomination of honorary members of the S. C.; 4. Nomination of Effective members; 5. Nomination of aggregated members; 6. Nomination of the Delegate of the Sup. Council to the Gr. Orient; 7. Circumscription of the Chapters; 8. Election of the Lieut. Sov. Gr. Comm.; 9. Nomination of candidates for 31, 32 and 33 degrees; 10. Propositions for promotion.

The Sov. Gr. Comm. had frequently postponed the Ordinary meetings of the Sup. C., for example, that of June 24th, 1907, to July 7th, and that of Sept. 20th to Oct. 25th.

Owing to the exceptional gravity of the project for the Unification which was about to be brought before the Sup. C., the authors and partizans of which, (Members of the Sup. C. of the Gr. Orient) had held among themselves several private meetings to concert the tactics to be employed to secure the adoption of the Scheme, several members of the Sup. Council, who had come to Rome for meeting of the 23rd, met together on the previous evening at the house of G. Camera 33°, Gr. Minister of State, to discuss what ought to be done to save the Scotch Rite and the Sup. Council from the snares which the Gr. Orient, assisted by sundry members of the council, were spreading for them, and thus to prevent the inevitable ruin of the Scotch Rite in Italy. They ascertained that they formed the great majority of the Supreme Council and drew up a resolution which will be spoken of hereafter.

They saw the peril which menaced the Rite was grave, in that the Sov. Gr. Comm. Ballori had allowed himself to be won over to this project of Unification, which would destroy our Scotch Rite; and they believed they would be failing in their sacred duty as defenders of the Rite, if they did not forearm themselves against the danger. While others were planning for the ruin of the Rite, they could not do less in their turn, than unite in action to save it.

On the morning of the 23rd, at 10 o'clock, the Council chamber presented a solemn aspect, owing to the unusually exceptional number of members present. They were the following:

Members effective: —Ballori, Camera, Pastore, Gay, Panunzi, Fera, Paterno, Ricciardi, Boselli, Miranda, Peretti, Pegna, Cassuto, Prina, Costanzo, Bentivegna, Bacci and Filippini.

Members aggregated:—Invited by the Sov. Gr. Comm. Elia, Pellicano, Woodyatt, Zona, Spada, Delli-Paoli, Serafini, Brogi, Bagatti, Golinelli.

Total 18 effective and 10 aggregated.

The Sov. Gr. Comm. presented to the Sup. Council the project for the Unification of the Rites, sent by the Gr. Orient, which had been drawn up by a mixed Commission of the two Rites (5 Symbolic and 5 Scotch, of whom only one was a Bro. 33rd, Ulisse Bacci, head of the Secretariat of the Gr. Orient, himself the real author of the project). This commission had been nominated by Ettore Ferrari, Gr. Master, in harmony with a resolution of the General Assembly of 1908.

Ballori, in submitting this project to the Sup. Council, stated that he had

previously sent it to the higher Chapters of the Rite and that their judgment was as follows:

Out of 12 Areopagi (30°) 9 had rejected the project, the remaining 3 had accepted it with modifications.

Out of 27 Chapters (18°, 9°, 4°) 16 had rejected it or proposed amendments amounting to rejection; 6 accepted it with modifications, 4 had accepted it and 1 had made no pronouncement.

The discussion was long and animated and brought to a close by Bro. Camera, the Gr. Min. of State, who proposed the following resolution:

"The Sup. Council, with the wish and confidence that the two Rites may work for the effectuation of the Masonic programme, recognizing that our Statutes and our international engagements do not permit us to take into consideration any project or proposition whatsoever of transformations or unification of Rites, and that it is not in the competence of the Lodges in their particular meetings to examine or discuss such subjects, passes to the order of the day."

On the vote being taken, the result was as follows: For the resolution—Pastore, Gay, Panunzi, Fera, Paterno, Ricciardi, Boselli, Camera, Miranda, Peretti, Pegna, Prina, Cassuto. Bro. F. Aprile, who was absent, sent his adhesion. In all 14 members effective.

Seven members aggregated also voted for the resolution of the rejection of the project—Elia, Pellicano, Woodyatt, Zona, Spada, Paoli, Serafini.

Against the resolution—That is to say, in favor of the unification, Ballori, Costanzo, Bacci, Bentivegna, Filippini. In all 5 members effective. Bagatti, Brogi, Golinelli—3 Members aggregated.

At the meeting of the Sup. Council on March 21-22, the Brethren Aleggiani, effective, and Squillace, aggregated, declared that if they had been present they would have voted against the resolution and for the unification; while Bro. Bianchi said he would have voted for the resolution and against the unification.

The project of the unification then was rejected by 22 (14 effective and 8 aggregated) against 10 (6 effective and 4 aggregated).

After this vote was taken the Sup. Council nominated the following honorary members: Sani, Calvino, Fano, Carbone, Gamba, Chiarini and Parenti.

Effective member—Franc. Pellicano.

So that from Feb. 23rd, 1908, the Sup. Council found itself composed of 26 effective members and 7 honorary.

The nomination of aggregated members was postponed.

The Sup. Council then fixed the circumscriptions of the various Chapters of the Rite. Ballori then asked that the election of the Lieut. Sov. Gr. Comm. should be postponed as he intended to resign his office of Sov. Gr. Comm. All efforts made to move him from such a decision were in vain. He replied "the vote to-day has been on principles; my opinion is not that of the majority; I must abandon this post; I do not go away, I change my place, while thanking you all. My resolution is irrevocable."

II. ORDINARY-EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE SUP. COUNCIL, MARCH 21-22nd, 1908.

The ordinary meeting according to our rules should have been held on March 21 at 11 a. m., but it was convoked by Ballori for 10 a. m., March 22nd, with the following orders of business:

Ist. Election of Sov. Gr. Comm., Lt. Sov. Gr. Comm., Gr. Sec. Chan., Gr. Master Ceremonies, Gr. Capt. of the Guard, Gr. Standard-bearer, Gr. Treasurer, Gr. Keeper of Seals.

2nd. Disciplinary process against a Bro. 33°. As is seen, most of the officers of the Sup. Council believed it their duty to resign owing to the resignation of Ballori,

the only one remaining in office being the Gr. Minister of State Camera, and it was to him that Ballori wrote asking him to preside at the meeting as he would not be present.

The following effective members were present:—Pastore, Pellicano, Pegna, Fera, Miranda, Aleggiani, Peretti, Bacci, Costanzo, Filippini. Other 33rds invited by Ballori were Bianchi, Serafini, Canti, Squillace.

The following effective members according to regulation Art. 62-63 had sent their vote by delegation:—Gay, Cassuto, Pandolfi, Panunzi, Finocchiaro-Aprile, Boselli, Bentivegna.

Bro. Camera, delegated to preside by the Sov. Gr. Comm. resigned, proceeded to the elections as announced in the Order of Business, after having verified that the effective members of the S. C. electors and eligible to be elected to office were 26, and that the number of voters was 18 (eleven present and seven by delegation.)

The result of the scrutiny was as follows:

Sov. Gr. Comm. Achille Ballori 15 votes out of 18 voting.

Lt. Sov. Gr. Com. Fera 13 votes out of 17 voting (Fera abstaining.)

Gr. Sec. Chan. Pellicano 12 votes.

Gr. Treasurer Riccardi 10 votes.

Gr. Keeper of Seals Miranda 11 votes.

Gr. Mas. of Cer. Peretti 12 votes.

Gr. Capt. of Guard Pastore 12 votes.

Gr. Standard Bearer Boselli 11 votes.

President Camera proclaimed the result of the election and invited Bro. Fera, Lt. Gr. Comm. to preside in the absence of Bro. Ballori, elected Sov. Gr. Comm. Bro. Fera on assuming the chair declared that he accepted this office beyond his powers on account of the difficulties through which the Sup. Council was passing, and because he only hoped to be a co-worker with Bro. Ballori. He then installed the elected dignitaries in their respective charges, which they all accepted, and proposed that at the end of the sitting the S. C. should go in a body to announce to Bro. Ballori his election and beg him to accept it. This was agreed to with acclamation.

Bro. Fera, on taking the chair, found before him a heavy dossier sent by the Gr. Orient, and entitled "Demand of authorization to proceed against 8 parliamentary deputies, belonging to the Scottish Rite, by virtue of Art. 127 (exceptional laws) of the Constitutions of the Gr. Orient, on account of their vote in Parliament regarding religious instruction in the Schools."

We shall speak on this question later on. For the moment let us state the result of the step decided on above touching Ballori.

Bro. Fera, accompanied by several members of the S. C., went to him to inform him of the vote and prayer of the S. C., but they were received with bitter reproaches. Ballori held to his resignation, and asked Bro. Fera and the elected officers to return in the evening in order that he might hand over to them all that belonged to the Sup. Council. On the evening then of March 22nd, at 8 o'clock, in the chamber of the S. C., Ballori officially made over to Bro. Fera and to his officers (particularly the Gr. Sec. Chan. and the Gr. Treasurer) all the keys, etc., belonging to the Sup. Council.

Bro. Fera then and his officers were legally invested with their powers by the election of the S. C. and formally put into possession of its property by the Sov. Gr. Comm. resigned, at Rome on March 22nd, 1908.

But how to provide for the vacancy of the Sov. Gr. Comm. The grand Constitutions of 1786 say, "If the chief dignitary resign, the next in office to him will fill his place and will nominate another Inspector Gen. to occupy the second position. "But Bro. Fera did not dream of availing himself of this arrangement, desirous only of leaving the way open for a peaceful settlement. He conformed

himself to the Statutes of 1866 drawn up by General Pike 33°, Art. VII., par. 2, "When the office of Sov. Gr. Comm. becomes vacant, the powers and rights of the Gr. Comm. are exercised by the Lt. Gr. Comm. until the Biennial Session."

Harmonizing this provision with Art. 61 and 117 of our General Regulations, after having consulted the dignitaries of the Sup. Council he decided to assume, in the interim, the functions of the Sov. Gr. Comm. until the ordinary meeting of the S. C. to be held June 24th, nominating Bro. Miranda to fill the place of Lt. Sov. Gr. Comm.

It was in this way, then, the dignitaries of the S. C. on March 22nd became, as was communicated in our Balaustra N. 7 to all the Sup. Councils of the A. and A. Scottish Rite:

Saverio Fera, charged with the functions of Sov. Gr. Comm.

- G. Miranda, Gr. Keeper of Seals, charged with the duties of Lt. Gr. Comm.
- G. Camera, Gr. Minister of State.
- F. Pellicano, Gr. Sec. Chanc.
- L. Ricciardi, Gr. Treasurer.
- C. Peretti, Gr. Mas. of Ceremonies.
- C. Pastore, Gr. Capt. of the Guard.
- Boselli-Donzi, Gr. Standard Bearer.

We immediately communicated the results of the elections of March 22nd to the Gr. Orient, to the Gr. Symbolic Lodge and to all the Chapters and Lodges of the Scottish Rite. The Gr. Orient by the pen of the Gr. Master replied dryly, "I have received your letter of the 24th, from which, among other things, I learn that the Ill. Bro. Ballori has not accepted his re-election to Sov. Gr. Comm. I deeply regret, with the Council of the Gr. O., that this Ill. Bro. has persisted in his resignation, of which I take note, because he governed the Rite with admirable equanimity, and a sure intuition of the duties of the Order in the present conditions of our family and of our country."

The Gr. Symbolic Lodge did not even reply. The Chapters and Lodges of the Scottish Rite, happy to receive from the Sup. Council an Official communication, almost all replied in amiable terms to the address of the S. C. Only the Chapters of Rome and a few others over which the action of the Gr. Orient made itself felt, manifested an attitude of hostility, which very soon degenerated into open rebellion.

Alas! Our Scotch Rite was in disorder, delivered over as it was to the all-powerful influence of the Gr. Orient, or to speak more truly, of sundry members of the Gr. Orient, who, taking advantage of the weakness of the Gr. Master, make rain and fine weather.

Behold in what difficult circumstances the new officers of the Sup. Council had been called to the direction of our Rite!

The storm did not long delay in bursting.

III. MEETING OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL, APRIL 1st, 1908.

Between Feb. 22nd, and March 23rd, a matter occurred in Italian political life which the adepts of the Gr. Orient manipulated to provoke the revolution desired. In our Parliament determined opposition was given to the Ministry on the question of religious instruction in elementary schools. The Minister of Public Instruction is a Mason of the Symbolic Rite.

The Socialists, backed up by the Gr. Orient, and all sections of the Opposition, were to the fore supporting a motion in favor of a purely atheistic school. The Government brought forth a measure which was to guarantee liberty of instruction.

The deputies belonging to our Scotch Rite on the 27th of Feb. voted in favor of this measure, while declaring that they had confidence in the promises of the Government to render the school ever more and more truly laique (free from all priestly influence.)

The Council of the Gr. Orient at once formulated an accusation against these Mason members of Parliament, and in virtue of Art. 127 of the Gen. Constitutions of the Gr. Orient, passed in 1906, asked the authorization of the Sov. Gr. Comm. to proceed against them. This is the article N. 127. "In a case of very great urgency, touching verified facts and of public notoriety, which offend the dignity, the interest or the ends of the Order, against a brother of whatsoever grade or dignity he may be, the Gr. Master on the accusation of the Gr. Orator of the Gr. Orient and with the consent of the Supreme Heads of the respective Rites may accuse him before a competent tribunal, fixing to it a peremptory term for the giving its judgment. If, this time limit having passed, the tribunal has made no pronouncement, it will be dissolved, and the case referred to the Gr. Orient, which will judge, if necessary, in an extraordinary meeting. It will proceed also against the judges of the dissolved tribunal according to Art. 101, Par. 7."

The Scotch brethren, against whom the Gr. Orient wished to proceed, were the following deputies of the Italian Parliament:

- G. Camera, 33°, Gr. Min. of State of the S. C., Ex-under Secretary of State of the Minister of Finance.
 - D. Cassuto, 33°, Effective Member of the S. C. and a distinguished barrister.
- A. Fortis, 33°, Aggregated Member of the S. C., ex-President of the Italian Privy Council.
- L. Bianchi, 33°, Aggregated Member of the S. C., Professor Naples University, ex-Minister of Public Instruction.
 - G. Fromicica-Nava, 32°, distinguished barrister.
 - S. Furnari, 9°, barrister.
 - C. Pascule, 4°.
 - E. Broya, 3°.

These are the 8 Scotch brethren whom the Gr. Orient intended to immolate, because they had not voted with the Socialists in favor of a purely atheistic school.

Let us note that the "Competent Tribunal" before which the Gr. Orient would have denounced them (if the authorization had been given) would have been the S. C., and if it had not acted within the term fixed by the Gr. Orient (according to Art. 127) it would have been dissolved by the said Gr. Orient, which would itself have proceeded against the 8 victims, and against the judges of the Sup. Council, which had not carried out its designs!!

It was not possible to deal with the request of the Gr. Orient for the authorization in the meeting of the Sup. Council on March 22nd. An extraordinary meeting therefore of the Sup. Council was called for April 1st. The Gr. Master admired the prudence of Bro. Fera, who, rather than reply on his own responsibility to the demand of the Gr. Orient, wished to consult the Sup. Council; but at the same time the Gr. Master officially informed all the Lodges that the Council of the Grand Orient has resolved to apply to the above mentioned deputies the procedure prescribed in Art. 127!! What a contradiction!! What imprudence!!

On March 3rd. the Gr. Master writing to Bro. Cassuto, M. P. (one of the 8 accused deputies) recognized that "In this special case, evidently, the vote contrary to Bissolati's atheistic motion (recommended by the Gr. Orient and the Gr. Master) was corrected by the explanations made on the Government Bill." And yet on March 9th, he drew up and sent to Ballori resigned, the demand of authorization to proceed against Bro. Cassuto and the other deputies who had not voted as the Gr. Orient had wished, but had nevertheless made sufficient explanations of their vote!!! How are we to judge of such conduct on the part of the Gr. Master and the Gr. Orient?

On April 1st the meeting of the Sup. Council was held, in which the Brethren Fera, Miranda, Boselli, Cassuto, Pegna, Camera, Paterno, Pellicano, Ricciardi, Pastore, Filippini were present and took part, and by expressed delegation of vote the Brethren Panunzi, Peretti, Gay, Pandolfi, Fabbri and Prini, that is 17

out of the 26 effective members who compose the Sup. Council. The Brethren Aleggiani, Ballori, Bacci, Bentivegna, Costanzo, Dolfi, Ferrari and Nathan neither came nor delegated their vote. These latter form the group allied to the Gr. Orient.

The Sup. Council recognized and established that it was composed of 26 effective members and 7 honorary members nominated on Feb. 23rd. It did not enumerate aggregated members, as they had not yet been re-elected.

Bro. Fera, who presided, having asked the advice of the Council on the demand of authorization to proceed against the 8 Deputy Brethren, the discussion proceeded in a very dignified and orderly manner.

Bro. Paterno, Senator and Vice-President of the Senate (Italy's Upper House) presented the following motion: "The Sup. Council, having heard the declarations of the Deputies accused by the Gr. Orient, does not find any reason whatever to take any action, and charges the Sov. Gr. Comm. to inform the Gr. Orient that the intended action against the Brother Deputies would interfere with the right of Representatives of the nation to vote according to their conscience and their political views."

The Gr. Minister of State summed up, approving this resolution and concluded that the Sov. Gr. Comm. ought to refuse the authorization requested. The vote on this motion, after the Brethren Camera and Cassuto (being two of the 8 accused Deputies) had withdrawn, was taken by nominal appeal. It was approved by all present and by those absent who had sent their vote by delegation. Bro. Fera abstained from voting as it was he who had asked the advice of the Council.

The Sup. Council then unanimously refused the authorization demanded by the Gr. Orient to proceed against the 8 Deputies of the Scotch Rite on account of their vote in the Parliament (House of Commons.) And on April 3, Bro. Fera communicated this decision to the Gr. Master, who replied to him on April 11th that "the Council of the Gr. Orient, without pronouncing on the value of the matter, had unanimously decided to acknowledge receipt of the communication."

This noble resolution of the Supreme Council, inspired by its regard for liberty of conscience and vote, of which the Scotch Rite is and ought always to remain the defender, served as the spark for those who wished to kindle in our Masonic family the terrible fire to which we have now to refer.

IV. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE LODGES APRIL 27th.—THE REVOLUTION.

Hardly had Bro. Fera communicated to the Gr. Orient the refusal of authorization to proceed against the 8 Bro. Deputies, when the Areopagus 30° and the Chapter 18° of Rome held tumultuous gatherings, in which outrageous discussions against Bro. Fera and the Sup. Council took place. The Masters of the Rome Lodges, with the exception of the Master of the "Giovanni Bovio," held a meeting under the presidency of the Gr. Master E. Ferrari, and decided to initiate a formal rebellion against the Sup. Council and a determined resistance against the acts of Bro. Fera, not only in the Valley of the Tiber, but throughout the country.

Bro. Fera conscientiously tried in every possible way to avert the danger and hinder the bursting of the storm. All was useless, for the Gr. Master and the Council of the Gr. Orient fanned the flame, and sought only how to incite the Lodges to war against the Sup. Council, and destroy the Sup. authority of the Scotch Rite in the face of Masonry and the nation, using every means, and even resorting to the public press.

The Legislative Assembly of the Lodges which had been called by the Gr. Orient for February was postponed to the 27th April; and it was by this that the Gr. Orient intended to open the campaign of violent hostility.

The Sov. Gr. Comm. in charge (Bro. Fera), as the general Constitutions of the Gr. Orient gave him right to do, had asked of the Gr. Master the suspension

of several rebellious Lodges. Nothing was done; on the contrary these very Lodges were welcomed with acclamation in the Assembly of April 27th.

Bro. Fera had suspended (in conformity with the General Rules) several Chapters and several of their members, leaders of the rebellion, and had communicated the fact to the Gr. Master. Not only was no notice taken of this, but a place was found for these suspended brethren in the Assembly of April 27th, by making them representatives of Lodges in the colonies, and they were received with applause.

For very grave reasons, Bro. Fera had sent forth special dispositions on the question of the position in the Lodges of brethren of the 31° and 32°. The Gr. Master and the Council of the Gr. Orient hindered the execution of these injunctions, persuading the Lodges to disobey them. There is more: during the Legislative Assembly, certain brethren, of whom the majority had been suspended by Bro. Fera, were allowed to hold a meeting in the Temple, Palazzo Giustiniani, at which they drew up and signed two resolutions which we transcribe among the documents attached No. 2, 3, 4, and which are acts of real rebellion against the Sov. Gr. Comm. in charge.

These resolutions were signed by 11 brethren decorated with 33°, of whom 6 are effective members of the Sup. Council. See document No. 2 attached.

And this was not enough; all the news of the revolutionary agitation against the Sup. Council and its decrees was given to the public journals; and reporters of the press were allowed to enter Masonic quarters to gather information, which was at once spread all over Italy to the shame and dishonor of Masonry.

We give the *resume* of the Minutes of the Legislative Assembly of the Lodges held April 27th in a document attached, which is a translation into English of what Gr. Master Ferrari communicated to all Masonic bodies in the Italian Communion. It is a document exceptionally grave. See document No. 2 attached.

Even this document does not say all that passed in the Assembly. We believe it also our duty to add to it the official extract of a morsel of the verbal process (the only one we have been able to obtain), which regards a part of the Seance of the Gr. Orient and of the Assembly, as it was sent to us by the Gr. Master at our persistent request. This extract is reproduced in English in document No. 4 attached. When one reads these documents, which have been published by the secular press throughout Italy, we may form an idea of what happened in that Assembly, of how the Gr. Orient treats Masonic affairs and of the critical position created for the Sup. Council and the Scotch Rite.

We note here only a few points:

- I. The Assembly was opened and worked only in the 3 degree.
- 2 It was composed of representatives of Lodges, not only Scotch, but also of the Italian Symbolic Rite.
- 3. Among these representatives a considerable number of brethren were under suspension or representatives of Lodges under suspension.
- 4. It is before this Assembly, which declared itself rebellious against the Sup. Council of 33rds that eleven Brethren 33° presented and read their protest addressed to the Supreme Council, against the Lt. Gr. Comm., acting Sov. Gr. Comm. Bro. Saverio Fera 33°.
- 5. It is this Assembly, presided over by the Gr. Master Ferrari, which asserts the superiority of the Gr. Master over the Sup. Council, in voting the following resolution:
- "The Assembly claims for the Gr. Master, the Supreme Head of Italian "Lodges, the exclusive right to guide and order the political direction of Masonry,
- "and invites him to provide for the strict observance of the Constitutions on the Ritual Bodies convoking, even should that be necessary, an extraordinary con-

" stituent Assembly."

- 6. It is this Assembly which, despite the fact that the Sup. Council and the higher chapters of the Scotch Rite had rejected the project for the Unification of the Rites, decides with the adhesion of eleven brethren of 33° what follows:
- "The Assembly, having heard the Communications of the Gr. Master and of the Commission for the Unification of the Rites, again confirms the solemn vote of the last Constituent Assembly, and doubts not that the momentary difficulties will be overcome, and that the will of the Assembly on this matter will have prompt and concrete execution."
- 7. And at last it is this Assembly which passes a resolution that "Masonry ought to provide for the formation of the democratic bloc for political elections?

Let us now see what happened after the Assembly: The acting Sov. Gr. Comm., Bro Fera, in concert with the Officers of the Sup. Council, desired to work for the re-establishment, if possible, of order and peace. He granted an amnesty to all the brethren, the chapters and the lodges which had been suspended, in the hope that this act of clemency would induce them to return to united and peaceful action. He therefore sent on May 15th, a circular (see Document N. 5 attached) to the Chapters and the Brethren asking them to reply to him, with a view to strengthening the Sup. Council by their obedience, and to co-operate for the re-establishing of harmony.

In short, before deciding what should be done in the matter of the brethren 33rds, who had been the chief agents in the revolt and the tumult, he opened an enquiry with a view of knowing exactly in the various localities what part they had taken and were yet taking to foment the rebellion. But alas, these steps had not the desired result; the act of clemency was regarded as an indication of weakness, and the rebels, emboldened by the resolutions of the Assembly, far from entering in order, removed themselves yet further from it.

The eleven brethren 33rds continued to foment rebellion in the Lodges and the Chapters, even by means of letters which are in our possession. And the Gr. Master had the audacity to send to the Lodges on May 28th, a circular (see Document N. 6 attached) forbidding them to reply to the request which Bro. Fera had made to them in his Circular of May 15th!!

Finding that all his peaceful efforts to restore order failed, Bro. Fera recognizing his responsibility as Chief of the Scotch Rite and guardian of its Discipline, was obliged to have recourse, in the midst of such a revolution, to such disciplinary measures as the laws of the Scotch Rite placed at his disposition. He suspended those Areopagi and Chapters, which instead of working for peace, placed themselves at the head of the revolt, and withdrew the "Warrant" from several Scotch Lodges which had placed themselves in open rebellion against the Sup. Council. And being unable entirely to leave unpunished the chief actors and most culpable in this revolt, on account of their Masonic rank and influence, on June 12th he issued a Decree of suspension (prepared in the early days of May, but held in suspense in the hope that events might yet render it unnecessary) against 13 brethren of the 33°, who were among the leading spirits of the revolt.

They were:

Ulisse Bacci, Chief of the Secretariat of the Gr. Orient.

R. Bentivegna, Gr. Secretary of the Gr. Orient.

Aleggiani, Grand Treasurer, ditto.

G. Albano, Gr. Orator, ditto.

Dolfi, Fabbri, Costanzo, Canti, Bagatti, Feder, Mondino, Brogi, Parenti.

Of the 13 brethren, six were effective members of the Sup. Council (Aleggiani, Bacci, Bentivegna, Costanzo, Dolfi and Fabbri. Paretti was an honorary member of the Sup. Council. The remaining six were brethren of the 33°, not belonging to the Sup. Council. All the 13 (excepting Brogi and Feder) belong to the Gr. Orient and Bacci, Bentivegna, Costanzo and Aleggiani had been Dignitaries of the Sup. Council, but had resigned their charges with Ballori after the meeting of the Sup. Council on Feb. 23rd and had not been re-elected.

Bro. Fera, in suspending the 13 brethren of the 33° from their masonic rights, acted quite legally, in virtue of the General Rules for the higher degrees in the Italian jurisdiction, which in Chap II., Art. 12, say:

"The Sov. Gr. Comm. for grave motives of order may suspend the superior Chapters of the Rite and brethren of exalted degrees; he will refer the matter to the Sup. Council at its next sitting." And again the great legislator of the Scotch Rite, Albert Pike, says in his "Satutes and Regulations" of May, 1872, Art. VI., para. 3, page 425: "In the interval between the meetings of the Sup. Council, the Sov. Gr. Comm., acting as the representative of the S. C., is charged with the general superintendence of the Rite in his entire jurisdiction. He may for good and sufficient reasons suspend the rights of any active member whomsoever until the next meeting of S. C., or he may for the same time, suspend the Warrant of foundation of any subordinate body whatsoever, and for these suspensions he is responsible to the S. C. to which an appeal against his decision is in every case admissible; but the appeal will not be considered as suspending the decree."

The legality of the decree suspending the 13 brethren of the 33° is consequently beyond doubt. One has contested the opportuneness of this decree, as if this suspension of 7 brethren having the right of vote in the Sup. Council might have been an electioneering manœuvre on the part of Bro. Fera, in order to secure for himself a majority in the next meeting of the S. C. (June 24), when the election of the Sov. Gr. Comm. would come on. Nothing could be falser. Bro. Fera had the majority in the meetings of the S. C. of Feb., March and April, when there was no question of members suspended. The suspension of the members of the S. C. happened at this moment, in that the grave masonic fault which rendered it necessary, was committed at this moment.

In short, if anything is certain, it is that Bro. Fera so little thought of being elected Sov. Gr. Comm. that he has always done his best to persuade Ballori to accept this office; and only on the morning of June 23rd, again before the meeting of the S. C., by means of Filippini, Chief of the Secretariat of the S. C., and Cassuto and Peretti, active members, he offered to Ballori a unanimous reelection. And on the scornful refusal of Ballori of this proposition of peace, Bro. Fera begged his majority to vote for another candidate rather than himself, mentioning the name of Bro. Miranda, so that if Ballori had not hindered the Sup. Council from proceeding to the election of the Sov. Gr. Comm. the election would have resulted in another than Bro. Fera.

But let us proceed with our chronicle.

After these disciplinary measures, there was a lively exchange of letters between Fera and Ferrari, who set himself up as judge of all the actions of the Chief of the Sup. Council. Sundry paragraphs from his letter of June 20th, which we report (see Document N. 7 attached) will give an idea of the plots laid against the Sup. Council. Meanwhile the rebels multiplied their acts of violence against the brethren who sought to work in order and harmony with the Sup. Council.

We give in Document N. 8 attached, the painfully eloquent letter which the Master of the "Giovanni Bovio" Lodge of Rome, addressed to us. This was the only Lodge in Rome which remained faithful to S. C. Well, one even ng when it was in peaceful session, a crowd of two to three hundred Masons of other Lodges invaded the Temple, and the Master of another Lodge, himself a Member of the Gr. Orient, violently forced the door of the Temple, whereupon the crowd rushed in in order to prevent Bro. Camera from pronouncing a discourse in this Lodge of which he was a member.

And more, the President of the Chapter, also a member of the Gr. Orient, convoked an urgency meeting of the Masters of the 9° with this notice: "To the defence of the Order!" In this gathering one hears that companies were organized and charged with the duty of taking by assault, and this failing, by violence, the Supreme Council at next meeting on June 24th.

Behold where we were on the eve of the meeting of June 24th.

v. THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL, JUNE 24-25th, 1908.

The S. C. found itself composed exactly as Bro. Ballori had left it on Feb. 23rd, that is to say:

Honorary members, 7—Sani, Calvino, Tano, Carbone, Camba, Chiarini, Parenti.

Active members, 26—Finocchiaro-Aprile, Pandolfi, Pastore, Gay, Costanzo, Panunzi Nathan, Ballori, Bacci, Fera, Paterno, Pellicano, Ricciardi, Donzi, Camera, Miranda, Peretti, Fabbri, Dolfi, Filippini, Pegna, Cassuto, Prina, Bentivegna, Aleggiani, Ferrari.

It was not possible to have aggregated members, as they had not been yet reelected according to rule.

Out of 7 honorary and 26 active members of the S. C., one honorary (Parenti) and 6 active (Costanzo, Bacci, Fabbri, Dolfi, Bentivegna and Aleggiani) being under suspension as noted above, at the ordinary meeting of the S. C. only 26 active members and 6 honorary could be present. And according to Art. 64 of the Gen. Rules, the meeting would only be legal if $\frac{1}{3}$ of the active members (i. e. 9 out of the 26) with the Sov. Gr. Comm. or his Lt. were present.

We should again note that no appeal had been lodged against the decree of suspension inflicted on the brethren 33°.

A notice calling the meeting of the S. C for June 24th was sent on June 12th with the following order of business:

- I. Nomination of Sov. Gr. Comm.
- 2. Balaustras touching the work done on March 21-22 and April 1.
- 3. Communications.
- 4. Presentation of Decrees for the foundation of the Tribunal of 31° and of the Consistory 32°.
- 5. Disciplinary measures touching the complet of High Treason tending to destroy the Unity of our Rie.
 - 6. Measures against Chapters and Lodges of the Scotch Rite, etc., etc.

Bro. Fera had been informed by persons, worthy of credence, that a plot had been formed, by the Chapters of Rome, the suspended brethren and the Gr. Orient to proceed by force and violence against the Sup. Council while it was in session, and to declare it fallen if it should refuse to comply with the demand of the conspirators. We did not wish to believe it, but many circumstances seemed to point that way, and among the rest, facts which the public press did not fail to report (see Document No. 9 attached). Our information, moreover, was implicitly confirmed in a discourse by Bacci, in which he glorified the triumph of the rebellion, a discourse made public in a daily newspaper (Document No. 9); and by Ballori in the arrogant words he pronounced in the meeting of the Sup. Council on June 24th; and moreover a brother 33°, one of the plotters, did not hesitate to say on returning home from the meeting of June 24th, "we were all there ready, if the case failed, to throw from the balcony of Palazzo Giustiniani the members of the majority of the Sup. Council"!

Bro. Fera had rented for two days, several chambers in Via Nazionale, so that the Sup. Council might retire there in case of necessity, but on the morning of June 24th he went to the Palazzo Giustiniani along with the members of the S.C. and wishing still to try all ways of conciliation, he again offered, by means of brethren Cassuto, Ricciardi and Filippini, to Ballori to propose his election as Sov. Gr. Comm. by acclamation, if he were willing to concert with him on the line of action to be followed. But Bro. Ballori scornfully repulsed this proposal of peace.

The meeting of the S. C. was opened in the Grand chamber of the Palazzo Giustiniani at 11.30 a.m. The Active Members present were:

Fera, Gay, Pellicano, Camera, Miranda, Ricciardi, Peretti, Pegna, Cassuto (9 of the majority.) Ballori, Nathan, Ferrari, Filippini (4 of the minority).

Bro. Prina, who in the morning had declared himself with the majority, but in the evening went over to join the rebels, was also present, and 3 honorary members (Carbone, Chiarini and Gamba) who sided the minority.

On the other side 4 active member, Pastore, Pandolfi, Panunzi and Donzi, of the majority, had sent their vote by delegation. Two active members, Bros. Finocchiaro, Aprile and Senator Paterno, whom everybody knew belonged to the majority, failed to be present. The relative forces then were as follows:

Majority—9 present and 4 by delegation; total 13.

Minority—5 active members and 3 honorory; total 8.

As soon as the meeting was opened Bro. Fera proposed to proceed to the election of the Sov. Gr. Comm. Immediately Bro. Ballori said he should oppose the S. C. proceeding to any deliberation whatever, holding that the meeting was illegal on account of the absence of the 7 members of the S. C. suspended. He said these brethren were outside, and only out of regard for him, had not taken their places in the Sup. Council by main force; and that he demanded Bro. Fera to annul the decree of suspension, which Ballori said he had no right to issue, or he would not allow the S. C. to discuss either this question or any other.

Bro. Fera replied that the meeting of the S. C. was perfectly legal, and that in suspending the brethren guilty of rebellion, he had not in any way exceeded his rights. He added, moreover, that the question was in the Agenda for the judgment of the Sup. Council, which could discuss it with perfect freedom, and to this judgment he would submit with all his heart. Bro. Ballori repeated that if this subject was allowed to be discussed he and his friends would retire and "others would enter." Behold the meaning of the threat!

Bros. Cassuto and Camera sustained the perfect legality of the meeting. Bro. Ferrari made an appeal for peace, when Bro. Ballori repeated once again that the suspended brethren waited with impatience and trembling without, and that if Bro. Fera wished to consult with his officers he could suspend the sitting, and then return to give his decision to the Sup. Council.

It was a quarter to I o'clock, so Bro. Fera adjourned the meeting till 4 p.m.

He carefully examined the position with the grand officials and other members of the S. C. It was evident that the only dignified and legal solution was that the suspension of the brethren 33° should be decided by the Sup. Council, as it was placed on the notice summoning the meeting. But then Bro. Ballori and his friends would carry out their threat to retire, and we should have had the violent invasion of the rebels with its incalculable consequences, disastrous and shameful.

There was no doubt, that under the present conditions, there was not in the S. C. the serenity, the calm and the independence necessary for a fair discussion of such questions. Moreover, the Dignitaries were unanimous in proposing to Bro. Fera that he should prolong the adjournment, which Ballori had suggested in the morning, in the hope that this might conduce to a return of that calm and serenity which would end in a possible effort at pacification.

This was the course followed. At 4 p. m. Bro. Fera announced this by a letter to Bro. Ferrari (see Document N. 10, 11 attached); and immediately decree N. 106 adjourning the sitting was sent to Bro. Filippini, Chief of the Secretariat of the S. C., one of Ballori's following. This prolonging the adjournment of the meeting was decided upon as the only way of saving the Sup. Council and the Scotch Rite from scenes and violent aggressions, which would for ever have dishonored Italy.

An hour and a quarter after midnight of the same day, an urgent letter from

Ballori was left at the hotel where Bro. Fera was staying (Document N. 12 attached), announcing to Bro. Fera, that on the same evening, the Sup. Council assembled in Palazzo Giustiniani had elected him (Ballori) Sov. Gr. Comm.!!!, and that he expected Bro. Fera on the following day at the same place, at II a.m., to receive from him the consignment of all he had made over to him on March 22nd.!!!

At daybreak on the 25th, Bro. Fera summoned urgently his officers and other members of the Sup. Council for mid-day. He then telegraphed to Dr. Ballori that it was impossible for him to go to the Palazzo Giustiniani at II o'clock, whereupon he was visited by two brethren of the 33° sent by Ballori to confirm and press his demand. Bro. Fera replied to these messengers that it was impossible for him to give a reply, before having seen a copy of the minutes of the seance, in which Ballori pretended to have been elected on the previous evening; and at which neither Bro. Fera nor any officer of the Sup. Council had been present. (See Document N. 14 attached.) In the meantime Dr. Ballori sent a letter to each of the Dignitaries of the Sup. Council ordering him to appear before him at II a. m. on the 26th, in default of which he, Dr. Ballori, would consider him as having resigned and appoint another in his place!! (See Document N. 13 attached).

The two messengers of Ballori returned after mid-day to tell Bro. Fera that anybody would show him the minutes of the evening seance if he came to the Palazzo Giustiniani, to which Bro. Fera replied that he could decide nothing without having consulted the Dignitaries and the majority of the Sup. Council, whom he had summoned to an urgency meeting.

But let us review the so-called meeting on the evening of the 24th at Palazzo Giustiniani, which had elected Ballori Sov. Gr. Comm. Of whom was it composed? Not having been able to see the minutes we can only get at it by a process of elimination.

Of the active members of the S. C., six were absent and had not assisted either in the morning or evening (Paterno, Finochiaro-Aprile, Pastore, Pandolfi, Panunzi Boselli); nine others it was proved had not been present at it (Fera, Miranda, Camera, Pellicano, Ricciardi, Gay, Cassuto, Peretti and Pegna); six were under suspension (Costanzo, Dolfi, Aleggiani, Bentivegna, Fabbri, Bacci) total 21. There could only then have been Five active members present at this so-called meeting (Ballori, Nathan, Ferrari, Filippini and Prima) and two honorary (Carbone and Gamba) for the other honorary member (Chiarini) could not be there. Seven in all who, without the Sov. Gr. Comm. or any other Dignitary, declared themselves a legal meeting of the Sup. Council, and proceeded to abrogate the decree of suspension emitted by Bro. Fera; while only in the morning Ballori had declared that the meeting, at which 17 members, under the presidency of the acting Sov. Gr. Comm. were present, was illegal and incompetent to pronounce on this same decree of suspension!!

The absolute illegality of this meeting is very evident. It had not been called, on the contrary it was rebellion against the order, adjourning the meeting, issued by him alone who had the right to convene it. The number present was not legal, 5 active members in place of 9 required by the rules. The lawful president was not present, not even a single Dignitary of the Sup. Council (see Doc. No. 14, 15 attached).

And these seven gentlemen, having abrogated the Decree of suspension against the 7 brethren struck by it, make them enter; and Ballori is proclaimed Sov. Gr. Comm.! And Ballori, who in the morning had refused the legal election proposed to him by Bro. Fera as a pledge of pacification, accepted in the evening this parody of an election, illegal, as a declaration of war!!!

How did Bro. Fera reply to these inexplicable movements? Nine active members of the S. C. responded to the notice summoning the urgency meeting of the 25th and four were present by delegation. The Sup. Council thus re-assem-

bled, in legal number, under the presidency of the acting Sov. Gr. Comm. It begged Bro. Fera, under the circumstances, to put into execution Art. III. para. 2 of the Grand Constitutions of 1786, and definitely and formally to assume the title and dignity of Sup. Gr. Comm., of which he had exercised the functions since March 24th.

Bro. Fera, who had done everything to keep himself free from an office so onerous, at length yielded to the entreaties of the S. C., seeing that circumstances imposed it; and he took the oath of fidelity to the Grand Constitutions, to the Statutes, to the General Rules and to the principles of the Scotch Rite. This act was at once telegraphed to the Sov. Gr. Inspc. Gen. 33rd absent and to all the higher Chapters of the Rite.

Besides this the Sup. Council declared null and void the sham election of Ballori, and Decree 107 (see Doc. N. 15 attached) was drawn up. It then declared that all the 33rds who had taken part in the meetings at Palazzo Giustiniani on the evening of June 24th, had fallen from their degree and office, as guilty of a flagrant act of rebellion, and decree 108 was drawn up on the subject (see Doc. No. 15 attached.)

The Sup. Council then proceeded to fill the places of its fallen members by new nominations. It has now 26 active members, of whom 15 were in it formerly:

Finocchiaro-Aprile, Pastore, Pandolfi, Gay, Panunzi, Fera, Paterno, Pellicano, Ricciardi, Boselli, Camera, Miranda, Peretti, Pegna, Cassuto.

And II newly elected:

Bellini, Fortis, Woodyatt, Zona, Paoli, Serafini, Bianchi, Carelli, Presutti, Palermi, Mastelloni.

All which eleven had been raised to the 33° between 1892 and 1907.

There are 5 honorary members resident in Italy:

Sani, Calvino, Palumbo, Papple, Fano.

The Sov. Gr. Comm. during the sitting nominated Bro. Miranda Lt. Gr. Comm., Bro. Pegna Gr. Keeper of the Seals, and Bro. Chas. Woodyatt Gr. Standard-Bearer, so that now the 9 Dignitaries of the Sup. Council are as follows:

Fera, Sov. Gr. Comm.

Miranda, Lt. Gr. Comm.

Camera, Gr. Minister of State.

Pellicano, Gr. Sec. Chanc.

Pegna, Gr. Keeper of the Seals.

Ricciardi, Gr. Treasurer.

Pastore, Gr. Capt. of the Guard.

Peretti, Gr. Master of Ceremonies.

Woodyatt, Gr. Standard-Bearer.

It was henceforth impossible to avoid the rupture of the Masonic union, which union of the 2 Rites in Italy has almost always had injurious effects on our own Rite and its principles.

The group of Palazzo Giustiniani (Ballori and the Gr. Orient) used the public press to announce to the public the crisis which had occurred, giving a very false version; and the Gr. Orient by the pen of the Gr. Master Ferrari, in a circular on June 27th (Doc. No. 17 attached) proclaimed Ballori Sov. Gr. Comm. and his group "the Sup. Council of the Scotch Rite for Italy"!!!

Has anybody yet seen or heard of a Sup. Council of 33rds proclaimed and sanctioned by a Gr. Orient of the third degree?!

VI. THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE SUP. COUNCIL JULY 8th, 1908.

The Sov. Gr. Comm. summoned an urgency meeting of the Sup. Council on

July 8th, and 20 active members responded to his call, either by their presence or by delegation; plus 2 honorary members.

- The S. C. decided to promulgate in the Masonic world Decree No. 109 (see Doc. No. 18 attached) and among other things declared:
- Art 1. The group, with its decrees and circulars bearing the signatures of Ballori or any other, who may usurp the functions of the Sup. Council, is irregular.
- Art. 2. The arrangement by which the Gr. Orient of Italy was charged with the government of the Lodges of the A. & A. S. Rite, is annulled from this date, and therefore the Constitutions promulgated by decree of the Gr. Orient, March 31st, 1906, cease to have force; and the organization known as the Gr. Orient of Italy becomes irregular.
- Art. 3. The Lodges of the ⁸A. & ⁸A. S. Rite, existing in Italy and her Colonies, from this date pass again under the administrative government, and under the dependence of and obedience to the Sup. Council of the 33rds for the jurisdiction of Italy and her Colonies.

So now our Scotch Rite, at length free, will be able to develop and produce its good and beautiful fruits also in Italy.

We do not for a moment doubt that after reading this account, scrupulously exact in all its details, all the Sup. Councils of the Scotch Rite will strongly support us, and will recognize in our Sup. Council true Italian Masonry, faithful to the glorious traditions of the A. & A. S. Rite, as to its principles, its organization and its discipline.

The following is Decree No. 109 referred to above sent out to the Supreme Councils throughout the world.

Document N. 18.

BALAUSTRA N. 15.

MOST POWERFUL SOV. GRAND COMMANDERS.

Illus. and dear Brethren,

In this Balaustra we call your attention to our circulars No. 7 of May 1st, and No. 12 of June 27th, confirming entirely the communications therein contained.

Though a little late—delay caused by various reasons—we now inform you of the events which have happened since our last.

In face of the audacity of the rebels, led on by Sig. Achille Ballori, who on June 24th, irregularly and illegally constituted themselves into a council and violently installing themselves in Palazzo Giustiniani, continue to pass themselves off as the Supreme Council; in face of the audacity of the Grand Orient of Italy, which, in order to get control over Italian masonry and as a consequence over the real Supreme Council for purely political ends, raised a scandalous agitation throughout our jurisdiction, urging to rebellion the great majority of the Masonic bodies subject to us, and proclaiming itself among the conspirators as the Supreme Council while yet only an organization of the 3rd degree; in face of this and yet more, the legitimate Supreme Council of Italy, which we in the eyes of the Masonic world have the honor to be, assembled on July 8th, 1908, to decide what steps should be taken. In that meeting Decree No. 109 was passed by which was proclaimed the *irregularity* of the organizations, having headquarters

at the Palazzo Giustiniani in Rome, especially of the group led on by Sig. Ballori, with Sig. Ernesto Filippini as the head of the Secretariat, and of the so-called Grand Orient of Italy led on by Sig. Ettore Ferrari, with Sig. Ulysse Bacci as its Secretary.

As a necessity we have dissolved our connection with the so-called Grand Orient of Italy; and have proclaimed the complete independence of the Supreme Council of the A. & A. S. Rite in Italy, from the Italian Symbolic Rite, and the dissolution of such Masonic bodies as have pledged their obedience to the Ferrari-Ballori irregular organization. Thus we have decreed.

We attach copy of the said Decree (109) as also a copy of the exhaustive statement which the Gr. Minister of State, Bro. Camera, M. P., ex-Under Sec. to the Minister of Finance in Italy, presented to the Sup Council in favor of the declaration of the independence and sovereignty of the Sup. Council over all the Mas. Bodies in Italy, which profess our world-wide S. Rite.

The said statement is entitled,

"The dissension between the Sup. Council of the A. & A. S. Rite and the irregular organization of the Palazzo Giustiniani in Rome."

We deem it wise once more to re-assume some of the principal points in the irregularity of that organization—points which have laid upon the Sup. Council of Italy the imperative duty of the steps it has taken.

- Ist. The transformation of Masonry by the Grand Orient, egged on by the rebels, into a purely Political Party.
- 2nd. The trampling under foot of our fundamental principles of respect for conscience, and the transformation of Masonry into a Society professing atheism and intolerant scepticism.
- 3rd. The attempt on the integrity of our A. & A. S. Rite by means of a project for its unification with the Italian Symbolic Rite, thus forming a new organization in which the fundamental principles of our Rite would entirely disappear.
- 4th. The overthrow of all discipline and the fomenting of rebellion in the various Chapters and the Assembly against the Sup. Council and its Masonic authority in our Rite.
- 5th. The want of respect for treaties existing between the regular powers and allied Sup. Councils, to the point of creating difficulties in Eygpt, in S. America and in the United States, which Councils we hold in high esteem.
- 6th. Co-operation with International Congress without any regard for the principle of regularity, an indispensable principle of all true Masonic bodies, up to the point of promoting one of these Congresses to be held on September 20th in Rome.
- 7th. And in short, not to go further, an entire disregard for the professed principles, and the reasonable observance of those forms prescribed by the A. & A. S. Rite for all the Chapters and Lodges professing the said S. Rite.

All this, and more, the Gr. Orient of Italy has done with the concurrence of Ballori and his following. All this, and more, this group has imposed with tyrannic intolerance on Masons new and old. And it is all this and more which the Sup. Council cannot permit and will not tolerate.

As you will see, we, in Italy, are in the condition in which France found itself, when the Sup. Council there, so well presided over by the worthy and illustrious Bro. Raymond, deemed it its conscientious duty to separate itself from the Gr. Orient of France. Identical is the indispensable necessity in which we find ourselves to proclaim the independence of the Sup. Council of the A. & A. S. Rite in Italy from the irregular Masonic Organization of the Palazzo Giustiniani.

The Sup. Council feels sure it has done its sacred duty in acting thus, and that it has been faithful to the Sup. Councils and regular Masonic powers to which

it is allied. It is convinced, moreover, that it will have the moral support, sympathy and encouragement of one and all of them.

We remind you in conclusion, that the Sup. Council has its official Head-quarters in Rome, and that all correspondence should be addressed to

(a) Official address in Rome:

Marchese Francesco Pellicano, Casella Postale 443, Rome.

(b) Private address:

Cavaliere Saverio Fera, 18, Via Pietrapiana, Firenze.

Saluting you affectionately in the unity and peace of the sacred numbers.

Saverio Fera 33°, Sov. Gr. Commander.

SUPREME COUNCIL FOR BELGIUM.

The Supreme Councils of the Rite everywhere are greatly indebted to the Supreme Council of Belgium for the excellent manner in which it has published, both in the English and French languages—in one volume—the Transactions of the International Conference, which was held in Brussels, on June 10th to 15th, 1907. The notes, minutes, resolutions and personal expressions of opinion are given with satisfactory fulness, and the volume is a most excellent compilation, exhibiting, as it does, both the spirit and the doings of that illustrious assembly. It is illustrated with representation of the souvenirs of the Assembly, and there are descriptions-all too modest-of the hospitality shown by the brethren of Brussels and Antwerp to the visitors. In this volume we note largely the handiwork of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, the COUNT GOBLET D'ALVIELLA, and the Illustrious Grand Chancellor, Brother A. DE PAEPE, and the prompting of their hearts, as also the hearts of all the kind and generous brothers, who were the hosts of the Conference. To commemorate this great Masonic Conference, the Supreme Council struck in bronze a medal which is beautiful as a work of art, and most valuable as a memento of a remarkable assembly.

SUPREME COUNCIL FOR FRANCE.

The Annual of the Supreme Council of France, published in 1908, and containing a report of the transactions of that Supreme Council for the year 1907, shows generally that the conditions of the Rite in France are satisfactory. The Supreme Council, the fact may be observed, unanimously accepted the conclusions of the Brussels Conference. The Annual is enriched with a photograph of the members of the Conference, and the resolutions, which were adopted, are made part of the record. The Illustrious Brother Jean Marie Raymond is Sovereign Grand Commander; Illustrious Brother Fernand Fau, 42, Rue Rochechouart, Paris, is Grand Chancellor.

As this report is going to press the Committee has received a copy of a "Historic Resume of the Organization and Works of the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for France and Its Dependencies," a neatly printed work of one hundred pages. This work, compiled by Illustrious Brother RAYMOND, is brought out in conformity with a decision or request of the Brussels International Conference of 1907, that each of the various Supreme Councils thereat represented should publish a sufficient sketch of its history to inform the Masonic world of its origin and development. The Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for France was founded in 1804 by authority of the Supreme Council at Charleston, S. C., itself founded in 1801, granted to the Ill. Brother COUNT DE GRASSE-TILLEY, but the high grades existed in France for some years previous to that, and the COUNT DE GRASSE-TILLEY was in possession of all the more important of the degrees then known before he received the authority. Briefly, but most interestingly, Ill. Brother RAYMOND sketches the history and doings of the Supreme Council, its relation to the other high legislative Masonic authorities in France, and he gives an excellent summary of the leading incidents of French Freemasonry through the past century. Throughout, the work is admirably done, so far as your committee can judge in the hurried glance which it has been able to give to Brother RAYMOND's history in the closing hours of the preparation of this report.

VENEZUELA.

Reference has been made to the fact that both the Supreme Councils of Scotland and England have ceased to hold friendly relations with the supreme authority of Freemasonry in Venezuela. A pamphlet issued by the "Lodge Asylum of Peace, No. 13," in the Venezuelan jurisdiction, publishes, among other things, certain propositions in regard to the relationship of Freemasonry to public affairs which are at variance with the practices of Freemasonry in Canada, and which propositions would commit the society to many matters of a political kind which the Freemasons of Canada as such do not discuss or agitate whatever they may do in respect of these as citizens. While the Supreme Council for Canada would scarcely be justified, in a matter of this kind, in taking action without hearing what the Venezuelan Council has to say upon the subject, the statements are certainly calculated to excite grave anxiety.

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

The proceedings for 1908 of the Supreme Council of the above named jurisdiction make up a handsome volume of over four hundred pages. It is full of interesting information regarding eminent brothers who are well-known to us, and exhibits generally the progress which the Supreme Council is making in numbers, in wealth and in the strength which comes of harmony of thought and unity of action. Three of the members of our Supreme Council were present at the Annual Session which was held at Buffalo. They were greeted with warm words of welcome by the Venerable Sovereign Grand Commander, Illustrious Brother PALMER, and the members of the Supreme Council vied with one another in courtesy to the visitors. The M.: P.: Sov.: Grand Commander, Ill.: Bro.: GIBSON, the Ill.: Past Sov.: Grand Commander, Bro.: STEARNS, and the Ill.:

Grand Secretary-General, Bro.: BALLARD, eloquently expressed their feelings at the warmth of their reception. Forty-two of the Active members of the Supreme Council attended the meeting, and there were also many Honorary Inspectors-General. It is an interesting fact that of all the brethren who united in 1867 in establishing the Supreme Council as it is to-day by the union of two Councils both claiming authority in the jurisdiction, four only survive, and three of them were present: Ill.: Bros.: HENRY L. PALMER, SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE and ABRAHAM T. METCALF. The fourth, who was not present, is WILLIAM PITT PREBLE, of Maine. Ill.: Bro.: JAMES D. RICHARDSON, Sov.: Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction, was also a welcome visitor. The thirty-third degree was conferred on fifty-eight Illustrious Brethren. The M.: P.: Sov.: Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of France, Ill.: Bro.: J. M. RAY-MOND, and the M.: P.: Sov.: Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Belgium, were made Honorary Members of the Supreme Council. The statistical tables show that the total membership in the Lodges of Perfection in the Jurisdiction as per the returns of 1908, were 56,907, an increase of 4,369 over the preceding year; in the Chapters of Rose Croix 52,160, a gain of 3,865; in the Consistories 51,238, an increase of 3,852. The Sov.: Grand Commander stated that he had during the year uttered a caution against publishing photographs of casts of the degrees, and generally against much of the publicity which was indulged in in newspaper publications of the doings of the Rite. The Supreme Council took action in regard to music ceremonials for practically all of the degrees and festivals. The various reports, observations, sketches of deceased members, doings of Councils, of Deliberation and the like, and the historical references are all brought together with skill and care by the Ill.: Secretary-General, Bro. JAMES H. CODDING, and they exhibit the power, substantial strength and fraternal friendship which prevail in a great jurisdiction. The revenue of the Supreme Council in 1908 was \$128,351.26; the expenditure, \$85,977.03; and the permrnent fund is now \$425,935.09.

Fraternally submitted,

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Committee.